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SHIP AHOY!

Photo: Ambalal Patel.

100 YEARS OF MARATHI STAGE

—See Page 3

A Story Of Kashmir

THE BRIDGE

By KRISHANCHANDER

He had strolled unusually far away along the slope of the hill and left the happy couples behind. On the way he met a middle-aged woman talking to her companion, a tall, young lady; and the curious thing was, that he met these two women every evening, invariably, at the same place, and every time, he would, as if involuntarily, lift his eyes to gaze at the sharp eye-brows of the young lady. He would continue to gaze, till the bushy eye-brows of the middle-aged woman showed signs of disapproval and exasperation; and the young lady hung down her head, so that he could see nothing but her well-combed, scrupulously parted hair, carefully plaited into a bun (and it was, sometimes, adorned with a few violets) that reposed on the brow (or edge) of the furred-collar of her warm coat.

He loved violets. They reminded him of the blushed cheeks and innocent eyes of a maiden. He always commended her fine taste. as he gazed at her with the complacent looks of love and admiration, but the young lady never encouraged him with a responsive smile. nor did she ever betray the flushed-glow that spreads over a maiden's cheeks by the wild contact of amorous eyes. Of course she used rouge and her finely carved lips were usually garnished by the artificial colour of lipstick, and on a closer view she appeared a fairly well painted doll. But he wondered why she was never accompanied by a man. The middle-aged woman seemed to be her constant, perhaps, only companion. He saw them strolling along this part of the road every evening, and as he passed them. he always cast his mute questioning glance at the young lady, but he never received any reply. She always hung down her head... and then he was afraid of the bushy eye-brows of the middle aged woman, disapproving his action. He had hastened along. But that day he saw something astonishingly different. Her face was so thinly rouged, that the lipstick appeared more prominent and there was a line on her left cheek. The rhythm of her slender waist was more indolent, almost crawling like an Alexandrine, and her laboured shuffling gait made him surmise that she was, probably ill, a victim to some dangerous physical .....and 'then' he thought, 'there is no male companion.'

The happy couples were left far behind. This part of the road was always quiet and lonely.. The sparsely sprinkled etur trees stood all alone, meditating under their green trunks. A red flag was fixed by the road-side. 'Red flag, a signal of danger,' some dangerous physical disease! All these psychologically associative ideas stormed his mind. He thought, yes, it is so. Her sullen looks. the middle-aged woman's angry furrows on the eye brows, the forced, unwilling manner of casting down her head, the laboured shuffling gait, she is certainly ill. But those violets....she belongs to a cultured family, cultured and perhaps rich. Then he ruminated: aren't these very qualities the accomplices that incite people to roguery?' A grey pony galloped past him. A European was riding. The red leucodermic scars on the neck of the European peeped through the collar of his Khaki shirt. 'Those people eat and drink a lot', he thought, 'probably more than I do' But he had little money in his pocket that day only a rupee and the long-expected money order never seemed to arrive. Everyday he had expected to receive it but every day passed and he was still waiting. Suddenly he felt still waiting. Suddenly he felt compassion for the poor Hatoo of the world and began to hate the red leucodermic scars and the shrivelled eye-brows of the middle-aged woman. Symbols, invidious symbols—private property, monopoly...., mean, wretched, blood-thirsty hounds....private owners. That pony. that grey pony must have been the property of a poor Hatoo, but the callous European rider so spurred and coaxed it to a rapid gallop, as if the pony lawfully belonged to him; and that, that aged woman so carefully guarded the young lady, as if she were her private property....But who knows she may be....? He jingled the coins in his pocket. They all seemed to hymn in concourse 'Private Property.'

The after glow of the setting sun was beginning to cover itself in a dusky veil. At the next turning of the road he could see the fast stream of Lictar gurgling down the wooden bridge. The crimson after glory of the evening kissed to a violet hue the white foam of the river and the auburn reflection of the newly planked yellow new wood of the bridge made the whole scene subtly attractive. He moved down a slope to the bridge, by whose side sat a bald old Kashmiri with sparse white hair about the temples, selling yellow pears. heaped in a dirty basket. The Kashmiri salamed him as if expecting him to buy a few pears. The yellow pears looked ripe and fine and he couldn't resist the temptation of buying some for one anna. He ate one and put the rest of them in his pocket; and leaning on the parapet of the bridge, began to gaze at the fast stream gushing under the bridge. The foam seemed to hesitate between the white and the violet. He got so absorbed in the scene that the bridge appeared to move, nay almost flying in the air, as if he were in a wooden aeroplane This joyous flight and the sweet yellow pears combined to uplift him into an ecstatic state. In this trance the old Kashmiri, from whom he had bought the yellow pears, looked a despicable creature, ignorant, foolish who sat by the bridge from morning till the evening, without realizing the bliss of this flight. Credulous, poor, Hatoo, but he revised his opinion. 'Probably this Hatoo is not so poor. He may be credulous. He has earned one anna, today. But it may be the only money earned. Sitting from morning up to this time by the side of this bridge for one anna?' He wondered and admired the patience of the man, 'only one anna.'

That day he found his usual walk very interesting, flying in a bridge over the fast flowing water of the Lictar. He wanted the whole world to look at him with amazed eyes, but was surprised to find that he was not noticed. A few boys passed over the road on their ponies, but they, too, did not notice that miracle. 'Foolish boys', he consoled himself 'they only come to enjoy pony rides in Pahalgaum. The Hatoo runs after the pony. The owner and the owned are both hired for just two annas an hour. At your service and command—man as well as animal! The Hatoos were panting after the ponies. 'For two annas an hour, only two annas', he would have shouted. Then he wondered. Is there any difference between man and an animal? If there is any, have we apprehended it? And suppose we understand the essential difference when shall we set things right?' Some mephistophelian voice in his heart replied "Shut up you idiot. Why do you worry? Eat these ripe sweet, yellow-pears and enjoy this flight in the golden bridge."

"Right you are," he said approving that remark. Putting his hand in his pocket, he brought out another pear; but as soon as he was going to eat it, he casually looked to the other end of the bridge. He saw an old man coming toward him. Was he also enjoying the flight? Probably not, for he had hung down his bearded face, as if he was solving a problem. He had a magnifying lens in his hand. He came nearer and stood by him.

He apologetically asked the old man, "Can I have the honour of your acquaintance?"

"Professor Rutherford", replied the old man with a flourish "the President of the British Royal Society of Sciences."

"Oh", he said, as he extended his hand "so glad to have met you." He took out another yellow-pear from his pocket and placed it on his palm. "Won't you taste it", he requested.

Professsor Rutherford examined the fruit through his magnifying lens and abruptly returned it. with the remark, "I don,t eat pears. I, the President of the British Royal Society of Sciences...."

"O....o....Oh!" he remarked, with a rolling voice 'tis a pity the President doesn't eat pears. But I hope you enjoy this flight Look at this bridge, how it flies over the water, almost like a seaplane."

The Professor looked at him with a senile smile and then began to examine the fast current of the river through his lens. "What a fatuous belief you have" he said, still intently gazing through the lens, "the bridge isn't flying. It is static, rigidly static. tis the water that gushes beneath the bridge. We scientists call it the illusion of the eye, almost a mirage. The relation between the illusion of the eye and the centre of one's vision, is a material one and ....."

"'Tis a lie", some one shouted, 'its a lie.' As he turned back he saw a tall handsome man standing quite close to him. Dressed in a fine orange-coloured Dhoti, his broad chest was bare and his lustruous hair hung loose over his shoulders. A subtle, inexplicable spiritual light shone in his heavy-lidded eyes.

"What is a lie?" he asked.

The tall, handsome, man replied "whatever the Professor was saying, is a white lie. These yellow pears, this poor Hatoo, this fast current, this golden bridge, in fact the whole world.....everything is a lie."

"I too know this", he remarked sarcastically "that the world is ruled by the white people and consequently cannot be expected to be anything more than a white lie, but....."

"But you can't say this here," interrupted the Professor, "I am the President of the Royal Society of Science and as such it is incumbent upon me to explain that....."

But before the Professor could finish, he interposed with a query to the tall, handsome man. "But who are you?"

The tall man fixed his heaven-intoxicated eyes at him and said, "I am Gautama, Gautama Buddha.... India's greatest man."

"Well, I am very glad to have met you", he told him, "Try one of these yellow-pears, they are very sweet. Try one. I bought them from that poor Hatoo sitting at the end of the bridge."

"Oh no! no!" said Gautama and withdrew his hand. "I don't eat pears .... these pears.... 'tis an illusion, mere matter, maya, I have renounced matter for good, and if you are eager for Nirvana, you...."

"Oh! I am sorry" he hastily apologised. Now he recollected that important night, when in one of the bedrooms in the palaces, a tall, handsome, man stood bidding adieu to his beautiful sleeping wife and his innocent child. He whispered a question to Gautama "Where's your wife?"

"Why do you ask that question?" asked Gautama, with surprised impatience.

"I was just thinking that you don't enjoy Pahalgaum all alone. Look, look that way, on the road couples are strolling, laughing. All types of people, young, middle-aged, old, they are all enjoying their evening walk. Only those people do not bring their wives, who have, in fact, no wives at all; or whose wives are ill, suffering from some dangerous physical disease". He visioned a sullen face, with an artificial colour of the lipstick, the bun adorned with violets and a slender waist that seemed to revolve round an axis, axis, circles ..... curves .... angles .... points ..... perpendiculars .....Euclid was right in saying beauty is Geometric?

Gautama was rudely shaking his shoulders and dinning it into his ears. "I left Yashodha because the love of a woman is maya.... the whole world is maya and Yashodha is a mere point in that circle of Maya,.... a mere point."

Professor Rutherford impertinently ejaculated, "you seem to be oblivious of the importance of a point. You evaluate it from the visionary point, but according to science, a point is an infinite world in itself. Well, I'll ..... any way, you wouldn't grasp it like this. I'll demonstrate it by an experiment with this lens. When the rays of the sun are concentrated at a point by this lens, that point becomes an infinite store or fire."

"Lie", replied Gautama firmly, "Tis a lie. The way of Nirvana is different and if you....."

The old Hatoo sitting near the bridge began to shout. He turned back and saw two municipal employees rebuking the Hatoo. One of them was heard to say, "Where is your license why do you sell pears within the municipal limits, without possessing a valid license?" The other kicked the Hatoo and hurled at him a shower of abuses, "Ill begotten, bold scoundrel has the audacity to sell fruits without a permit. Thinks that this state is his own ancestral property".

The Hatoo implored for mercy. "For God's sake. I didn't know, Baba. I am a poor man. I swear, I didn't know. I promise. I will not repeat this thing, never, never I will never sit by the side of the bridge again. For God's sake pardon me this time. I seek mercy."

The first man kicked him this time. "Wretched dog, son of a pig, get up and don't stare like an owl. Pick up your basket and accompany us to the police station." But the other man felt so angry that he turned the basket empty, so that the fine yellow pears fell into the fast current of the river.

"Do you see? do you see over there," he said with exasperation and placing his hands over the shoulders of Professor Rutherford and Gautama, he pointed "Look how wantonly, how mercilessly, they are treating the Hatoo. Need must a poor have a license to live in this part of your world too? But why do you only stare like this? Why don't you do something? Help that old man. Come, let us help him."

But he suddenly realised that he stood all alone on the static wooden bridge. The afterglow of the west had dissolved into dusk and against the sullen background, he saw two men drive away the old Hatoo.....

(Translated from Urdu by M. M. Bhalla.)

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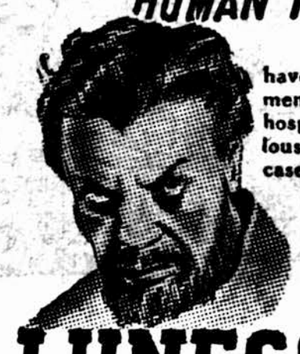

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Hundred Years Of Marathi Stage

Balagandharva

Rise, Growth, Decline And Regeneration

By T. V. PARVATE

BOMBAY, April 10.

The whole of Maharashtra has very enthusiastically participated in the celebration of the centenary of the Marathi stage. The round of festivities in connection with it began at Sangli last year, the full two weeks' festival in Bombay starts from April 14 and Nasik, Ahmednagar and a couple of other places perhaps have made plans for the celebrations to be held a few days hence.

The first celebration of this round was held at Sangli, because that charming town on the border of Maharashtra and Karnatak is regarded as the birthplace of the modern Marathi stage. Nagpur, Poona and Kolhapur have held these celebrations already and even in Bombay there were two celebrations some time ago on a small scale, one by the amateur dramatic clubs numbering no less than two hundred in Bombay and another by theatrical companies. But the fourteen-day programme organised under the auspices of the Marathi Sahitya Sangh is going to be an epic and a classic affair for a number of reasons.

Primary Attractions

One of the most important reasons is that Mr. K. P. Khadilkar who has practically become an invalid and retired from all public activity has agreed to inaugurate this festival. Efforts were made to get him to officiate in a like manner at Sangli, but they proved futile. Sangli happens to be his native town and a scene of the activities of his very early days, but Mr. Khadilkar will never do anything if he does not want to do it. Pressure from anywhere has no meaning in his case. Luckily he is gracing the festival in Bombay which city he has adopted as his own for the last 25 years. His position as a dramatist has been an unchallenged first in Marathi letters and his consent to associate himself with the festival as its high-priest must be considered as very creditable indeed to the organisers.

But probably less out of a sense of propriety and more out of a feeling of being helpful to the President of this festival, has Mr. Khadilkar agreed to inaugurate this celebration. Mr. Narayan Shripad Rajahansa, popularly known as Balagandharva has been elected to preside and he earned his best popularity through the vehicle of Mr. Khadilkar's plays like "Manapaman", "Vidyaharan", "Swayamvar" and "Draupadi". His position as an actor and a musician is regarded as supreme in Maharashtra and Bombay has been fortunate enough to secure the topmost man in the Marathi theatrical world for the presidentship of the centenary celebration of the Marathi stage.

Mr. P. K. Atre, who is elected chairman of the Reception Committee is also a popular playwright and has made Bombay his home for the last many years. Only last week, he has started a big press of his own and publishing books for children is going to be a speciality of his printing activity. He is too well-known in the film world to need any elaborate mention.

The programme which covers a period of 14 days includes theatrical performances, musical and dance varieties, discussions and lectures. All this has been very carefully planned and this festivity promises to be so distinctive that it will remain in public memory for quite a long time. Most of the professional theatrical companies still doing business will give a performance each night and among the players will be a number of veterans of the Marathi stage.

Beginnings Of Marathi Stage

What might be called a dramatic play in the modern sense was first produced in Marathi in 1843. The honour goes to Mr. Vishnudas Bhave who was patronised by the Chief of Sangli of those days. It was called Seeta-Swayamvar and was a close imitation of what obtained in Karnatak by way of drama. Cruder forms of entertainment like "Harikirtan", "Lalit", "Gondhal", the Bahurupee's craft or mimicry and "tamasha" were there and drama flourished after it once began, because the talent and raw material was kept prepared by these forms of entertainment. Drama as a form of literature was not new to Indians in any province. Sanskrit dramatists like Kalidas, Bhavabhuti and Bhasa had lived thousands of years before and left a rich heritage for easy exploitation.

Earlier dramatists like Deval, Kirloskar, Godbole and Rajwade naturally drew their inspiration from them and wrote their original plays or translations after the ancient patterns. An independent historical play of those days was "Madhavrao Peshwa" by V. J. Kirtane. A later generation of writers came under the influence of Shakespeare and 'Hamlet' and 'Taming of the Shrew' adopted a Marathi garb by becoming 'Chandrasen' and 'Tratika' in the hands of such eminent men as Gopal Ganesh Agarkar and Vasudeo Balkrishna Kelkar, both of whom were among the founders of the Fergusson College.

Rapid Development

Regular theatrical companies began to be formed and it will be a surprise to many to learn that the announcement of Kirloskar Natak Mandali appeared in 'Kesari', and handbills about its formation carried the signature of the late Lokamanya Tilak among others. This company had a steady rise in public estimation and continued to function till about 20 years ago. Its popular plays were 'Shakuntal', 'Saubhadra', 'Sharada', 'Mrichhakatika' and 'Shapasambhrama'. Vagholikar, Muzumdar, Natekar and Bhaurao Kolhatkar were the celebrated actors of those days in this company. It may be noted here that 'Sharada' by Deval was a fine piece of propaganda against unequal marriages and is popular even today. This was a wholly original play; others were mythologicals based on the works of ancient masters.

Mr. Trilokekar was another playwright of those days and he wrote 'Harischandra', 'Damayanti' and 'Savitri', and one Hindu Sanmargabodhak Natak Mandali staged them. Music distinguished the plays of the Kirloskar Mandali while its contemporary, Shahunagarvasi Mandali staged only prose dramas and that afforded the best scope for the art of real acting to develop. 'Durga' by Dewal and 'Gunotkarsha' by Khare and Shakespeare's Marathi renderings by other writers were specialised in by this company. Historical plays like 'Panipatcha Mukabla', 'Rana Bhimdeo', 'Baji Deshpande', 'Tukaram' and others were also great hits of this company and it presented the unmatched actor, Ganpatrao Joshi to Marathi stage.

Hey day Of Marathi Drama

When Maharashtra Natak Mandali was staging Mr. K. P. Khadilkar's prose plays and Gandharva Natak Mandali was staging his musical plays, the Marathi Theatre was at its best. This period may roughly be indicated as from 1900 to 1930. Besides Khadilkar, Gadkari, Khare, Tipnis, Varerkar, Kolhatkar, Kelkar and Atre also flourished in the same period. Lalitkaladarsh Natak Mandali, conducted by Keshavrao Bhosale was a keen competitor of the Gandharva Natak Mandali run by Balagandharva, Bodas and Tembe.

From Kirloskar and Maharashtra companies, several trained actors seceded and formed new units, these again split up and yet new formations took place. More and more artistes and playwriters were absorbed into the profession. Natya Kalaprasarak, Natya Kalapravartak, Balvant, Yeshwant, Anandvilas, Nutan are some of the names one can recall off hand. Among the prose ones Bharat and Chittakarshak come to one's mind. Among actors Pendharkar, Chaphekar, Sarnaik, Bhat, Aundhkar, Gurav, Pradhan, Karkhanis etc., are easily remembered.

New Era And New Spirit

Perhaps a very remarkable feature of the Marathi stage during its history of hundred years has been this: that actors themselves were quite competent playwrights also. Kirloskar, Aundhkar, Tipnis, Patankar, Gupte are some of these names. Another remarkable feature of this period has been that there were no women on the stage. Male actors played female roles. A few of them managed this well but the arrangement was not quite satisfactory, in the main. A keener sense of aesthetics and realism would not allow this for long to continue and a beginning was at last made when Natyamanvantar Ltd., was started in 1933.

The cinema was getting quite popular everywhere; it was getting so popular that for a time the belief held the general field that the cinema had killed the stage. There was some competition between the two and the vogue of plays of short duration, not exceeding three hours began. Mr. Anant Hari Gadre was a pioneer in this field. Balmohan also took this up. But it was left to Natyamanvantar to give it proper form, finish and polish. This bold enterprise turned a new leaf in the book of Marathi stage. Date, Vartak, Kanekar, Kale, Altekar all men of new ideas transformed the stage. "Andhalyanchi Shala" brought forth the talented actress and songstress of to-day viz Jyotsna Bhole and 'Usna Navra' presented Leela Chitnis to Indian Screen, after exhibiting her talents on the Natyamanvantar stage.

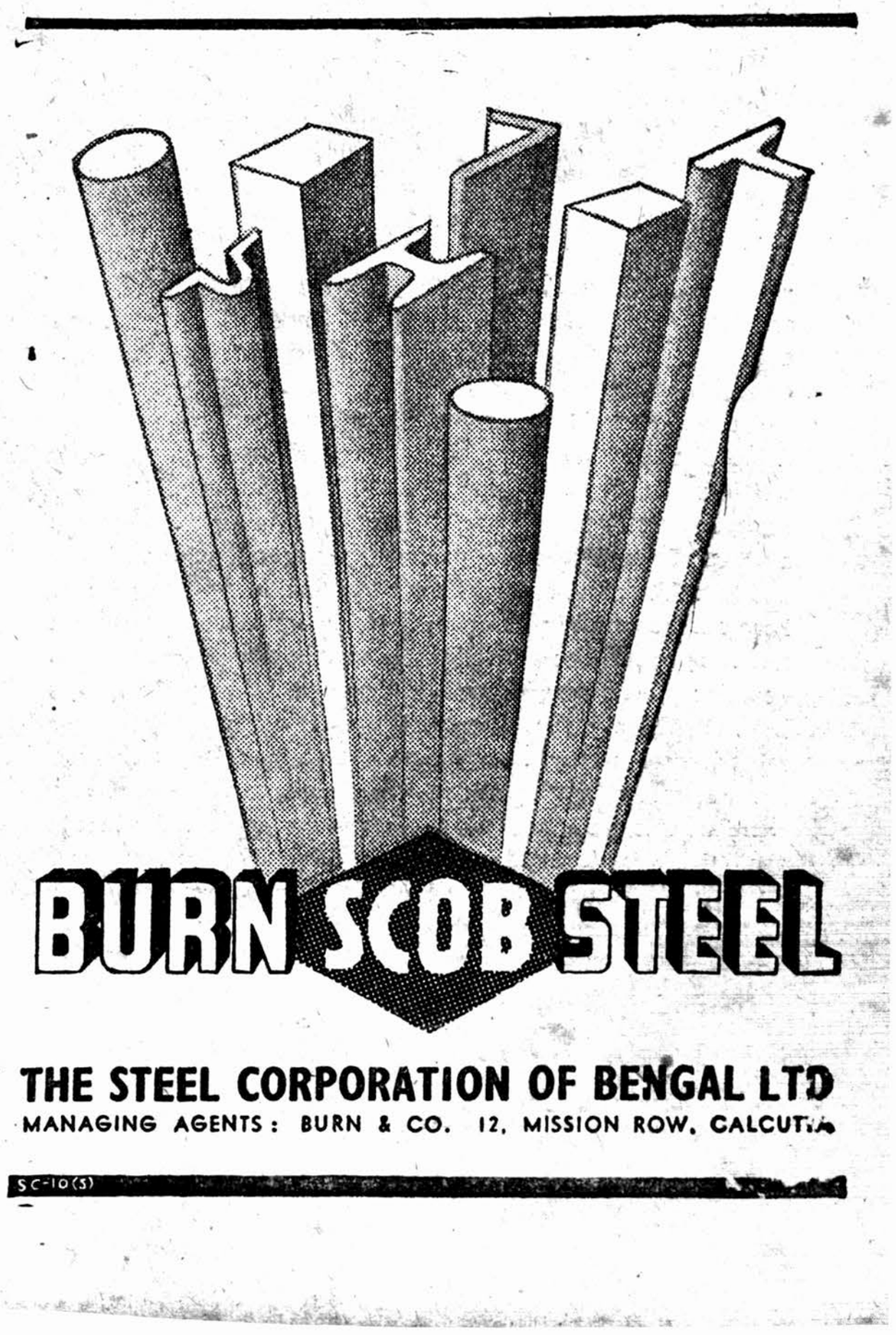
Natyaniketan's Success

The failure of Natvamanvantar and closing down of several other companies lent support to the belief that the Cinema had completely supplanted the stage after having successfully seduced even actors and playwrights from the stage to the screen. For a time, the Marathi stage appeared to be as cold and dead as mutton. It seems, however, that the taste for a more living, lively and life-like entertainment than the celluloid can ever offer is asserting itself. The success of Natyaniketan fills all lovers of the stage with a new hope. Other companies and clubs on the same style are cropping up and if managed as well as the proprietor and playwright of Natyaniketan, Mr. M. G. Rangnekar does, they have a chance. The success of 'Asheervad', 'Kulavadhu', 'Alankar' and Adarsha Natyalaya's 'Kanyadan' in which Saraswati Mane and Chonkar played is an encouragement to all similar efforts.

Jyotsna Bhole

Such eminent men as N. C. Kelkar, V. D. Savarkar, Govindrao Tembe, B. V. Warerkar, the Maharaja of Gwalior, Dr. Bhadkamkar and several others who have participated in the Maharashtra-wide celebrations of the Marathi stage centenary have unequivocally expressed their preference for stage over the screen. They realise that the screen has come to stay and even become far more prosperous than its parent, the stage, but they do think that it need not and does not kill its parent. Certain graces, the stage alone can wear and attract. That seems to be a judicious and valid view.

Hundred years of the Marathi stage is quite a vast subject and none can hope to be fair to it in the brief space that a newspaper article can have. Conscious as I am of many important omissions and failure to deal with several aspects of the Marathi stage, I do not observe the formality of an apology. Limitation on space is a hard fact.



Glamorous Vision Of Post-War Homes

SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

By W. CLIFFORD HARVEY

Doors will swing on "squeakless" hinges in postwar houses. Heaters will be small as radio cabinets, yet strong enough to warm 10 rooms Washable window screens as light as feathers will roll up like curtains....

Blanketless beds will be heated by radiant energy. Roofs will be insulated against cold and heat by two-inch layers of water. You won't be able to break household glass with a hammer, yet it will float in water. Lighting will come from hidden sources and approximate daylight so closely you won't be able to tell where the natural light leaves off and artificial lighting begins....

There are promises that building revolutionists are making in loud terms for the postwar house. Houses, they say, will be dirtless, draftless and dustless. They will cook the meals and wash the dishes automatically. They will be as comfortable at 60 degrees as prewar houses were at 70. And the reasons they give for all these advances have their roots in engineering logic which the war is raising into the public focus.

Some of the post-war houses will fold up like newspapers for delivery by truck to the home site. You will order them by telephone in the morning from a department store, and entertain your friends "at home" in the evening. Or you can have a house blown up like a balloon to a size befitting both pocketbook and family living requirements.

Everything Except.....

As one building manufacturer in the U.S. put it: "The post-war house will cheerfully do about everything except sit in as a fourth hand at bridge."

This glamorous picture of the post-war family shelter is boldly painted by famous architects, engineers and manufacturers of household accessories. They are the building revolutionists, many of whom have long believed that housing has held aloof from modernization on a par with other industries, that a wartime economy is forcing the industry into an era of explosive changes in construction methods and materials.

War has its peculiar way of firing the imagination of home-front consumers. And manufacturers have joined in gilding the build-up of things to come with gigantic advertising spreads, some of which fall little short of predicting Utopia for the home buyer. They know that wartime unity in industry accelerates the creation and application of new ideas in all forms of endeavour. And housing which has confined itself largely in the past to building homes for only a small percentage of high-incomed families appears more susceptible than most industries to revolutionary trends in financing, materials, and methods of construction.

But whence comes that rumble of opposition in another direction? Those are the more conservation elements in building warning that glamour is for Hollywood, not for a dyed-in-the-wool business like building homes. Materials and methods of putting up houses, they insist, will continue after the war to undergo the traditional, slow-pace, third-degree of trial and error just as they did before the war.

The fact is, the evolutionist and the revolutionist are both right. Step by step progress will probably continue to be the gauge of home-building in the conventional field of custom-made houses ranging above Rs. 18,000- But in the category of less-than Rs. 18,000 houses ranging above Rs. 18,000. But more than 90 per cent of average families and designed to open entirely new fields for building, developments will undoubtedly be as spectacular and dramatic as the unraveling of a Hollywood film.

Entirely New Products

But the building industry cannot escape the conclusion that revolutionary trends in the low-priced home brackets will necessarily enforce such repercussions upon the entire housing field as to create a wholly new pattern for American living. This pattern will be based upon standards only faintly discernible to-day in hasty, wartime glances into the microscope of research. Through this lens entirely new products can be seen moving into the building focus, some of which will be scrapped in the post-war era as wartime expedients, others of which will find ready acceptance and still others will await the process of public reaction in the highly competitive markets to come.

Take the compact, all-in-one-unit, heating-cooling and air-conditioning system developed by large gas companies in the U.S. This unit had been introduced on a small scale before the war, enough to know that the public will accept it quickly when hostilities cease. Panel heating, though pipes laid in the floors and walls which serve as radiators, is another product expected to boom in the post-war period. On the other hand, solar heating is one of those things under sharp research these days, but which will still require years of experimentation and research to prove practical.

However, the stuff that dreams are made of is not critical, wartime material, hence is not rationed. So there is less opposition to new developments than usual. There is a hopeful following even for the university expert who says some post-war houses will not need furnaces, that walls will be lined with a new material that reflects rather than absorbs heat from the human body, that an electric plate set into the ceiling of a room will serve as an artificial sun reflecting solar rays.

Tangible Shape

Launched from a modern, industrial springboard based upon the lessons learned in the war, the post-war house may well come equipped with towel racks formed of hot-water pipes for drying, lamps built into ceiling and walls, floors warm enough to walk on barefoot, wash basins large enough to bathe the baby in foot pedals controlling the kitchen faucets, built-in pressure cookers, round refrigerators that pivot for accessibility to their compartments, deep-freeze units for home freezing foods, varieties of accoustical techniques to isolate corners of rooms from noises in other parts of the same rooms and plastic pipes that stretch to avoid bursting when the water freezes in cold climates.

Unless research badly gauges its targets, to-morrow's windows will not stick, rattle, or bind. Houses will be designed to grow in size with the family. Stoves as we know them will ultimately disappear to be supplanted by electrically heated metal-plates plugged into any part of the kitchen or dining room.

Refrigerators will include faucets for ice water, built-in pressure cookers and units for freezing foods at home. Through the use of chemicals, woods are being developed as strong per unit of weight as steel for furniture, bathtubs, movable walls and structural units. That means better homes for less money.

These dreams of post-war living are taking tangible shape in some war-housing experiments, others in research laboratories tucked away in corners of plant dedicated to the main task of winning the war. One plant in America calls post-war research its "victory department", where veterans focus on the surging waves of building materials pounding at the sluicegates of dammed-up orders awaiting the return of peace.

New Frontiers

What about prefabrication? Certainly there is a dramatic future for an idea that will allow home-building industry to function 365 days a year regardless of weather. War housing has proved the speed and economy of shop-fabrication. The return of peace will complete the cycle of efficiency by designing attractive prefabricated houses with improvements in quality and stability.

Builders of conventionally designed houses will not take this competition lying down. Their resistance, however, will supplant pre-war opposition of the stubborn type with healthy competition in turning out better homes at lower costs "on their own." There is no need to say "May the best system win," for both prefabrication and custom-built methods have their own inevitable places to fill in the era of post-war home building.

But for the first time in the history of building, research is stepping into the field of housing on a scale comparable in efficiency to motor car designing, financing, and merchandizing. Competition between two radically different systems of construction is bound to open new frontiers. And when the smoke clears away, many of us will be living in homes that can be turned in on new ones, that will be put together in a day, a month, or a year as the family taste demands, that will keep out weather, fire, burglars, and vermin, and enable any family with income of Rs. 3,000/- or more a year to have his own home and garden.—USOWI.

BETTER TAKE A MAC

IN using the word "Mac" to mean waterproof, we pay tribute to the Scot, Charles Macintosh (not Mackintosh as the dictionaries usually say!) who in 1823 produced a waterproof material by impregnating fabric with a solution of rubber in naphtha. How to make clothes withstand water is still a major problem for the chemist, for modern standards demand something more than heavy proofs against heavy weather. Rubberised garments and oilskins are certainly proof against water, but they are also proof against air and in the absence of special ventilating arrangements are apt to be heavy and hot. Your rain-coat today must be light in weight as well as keep out the wet. It must be water-repellent: that is, water must not cling to it. The difficulty is to treat textile fabrics so as to combine protection with ventilation, but a number of methods have now been perfected, some of which can be applied to the most delicate materials. The latest achievement of British chemists is a waterproof finish which will stand up to laundering. Today there are also the special needs of engineers, fitters and others in the fighting services and in Industry. Their working dress must be both light enough to give freedom of movement and strong enough for protection against weather. It is to the credit of the chemist that he has enabled the British textile manufacturer to combine these qualities.

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Fire In Dock Area Brought Under Control

Work Of Clearing Debris Begun

THOUSANDS HOMELESS: HOSPITALS BUSY DAY & NIGHT: PLAN FOR CO-ORDINATION OF RELIEF EFFORTS

Tired and perspiring men of the fighting services sat in rows on the footsteps of houses, which they guarded and cordoned off as the sun went down against a grey sky, with a pall of smoke from the smouldering fire, screening off a bank of clouds.

Though the earlier excitement of the milling crowds to have a "ringside view" of the dying embers, subsided as the day advanced, a considerable number of people rushed to prohibited danger zones, egged on by a desire to get back their things from such buildings which had not even been blackened by the thick acrid smoke of the previous day.

CROWDS GATECRASH INTO RLY. YARD

Earlier in the day, the crowds to see the fire which had been brought under control were large. At one spot, they even gatecrashed in a railway-yard and straggled in all directions. Then the police came on the scene and kept them back.

A further precaution taken during the day was to lay two lines of demolition around the fire to prevent its spreading to adjoining localities. Late in the evening, there was a little crackling sound at places where these trails were put up. There was no further need to take more precautionary measures, as the situation was completely under control

CONFIDENCE RETURNS

While confidence was generally returning in the city, there were some ignorant and illiterate persons—men, women and children—who were slowly trekking to outside places. Some of them were bound for such places as Junar some 100 miles away and adjoining localities like Manchar and Khed. There were others who had occupied open spaces the previous day, comfortably settling down, as they were made aware of the projected relief measurese.

Till late in the evening, persons were sheltered in the Musafirkhanas the previous day, were seen shifting their household articles in handcarts and on bare heads Police lorries assisted these men to remove the articles from the musafirkhanas to safe street corners.

Relief Efforts

Relief measures to those affected by the explosions and by the damage caused by fire which broke out in the city, on Friday, were decided upon on Saturday.

The Congress Municipal Party met at the Corporation Hall, on Saturday, "to help and co-ordinate the efforts of all concerned in adopting all immediate and necessary measures to give relief and help to the dishoused and the needy who are involved in the unfortunate catastrophe."

The Bombay Municipality decided to open up relief centres for the victims of the affected localities, with the financial assistance of the Government.

These various measures have not yet crystallised, as the details are yet to be worked out.

The Government of Bombay have decided to extend all assistance to the people in distress by way of providing shelter, food, clothing and other comforts. They have advised the Municipal Commissioner and the Municipal Corporation to take over all Musafarkhanas and other buildings which were intended to be used as A.R.P. relief centres for this purpose

Meetings have been scheduled, in this connection, for Sunday (to-day) and Monday (to-morrow). Mr. M. R. Masani, ex-Mayor, and Mr. M. D. Bhat, the Municipal Commissioner, have convened a meeting of representatives of organisations desirous of rendering service to the people in distress on Sunday (to-day) at 2-30 p. m. in the Corporation Hall

SHERIFF'S MEETING

A meeting of leading citizens, convened by the Sheriff of Bombay will be held in the same hall on Monday at 6 p. m. to express sympathy for the sufferers and to consider how the relief work organised by the Municipality can be supplemented

Non-official organisations in the city mobilised their forces to give succour to the distressed. The Bombay Provincial Muslim League has opened relief camps where nearly 50 persons discharged from the hospitals are being looked after. About 300 persons are sheltered in camps opened up in musafirkhanas. They are being given food, clothing and other necessities.

The Bombay Provincial Hindu Sabha has opened a relief centre at Keer Wadi, Mahim, where arrangements have been made to the people in distress.

The Arya Samaj gave shelter to a number of women and children in its home at Girgaum, on Friday night. The volunteers of the Samaj rendered help in removing people to places of safety.

The Halai Lohana Mahajan Wadi at Kalbadevi and the Bhatia Mahajan Wadi opened relief centres. The Parsi Panchayat is also organising relief measures

DONATIONS

A sum of Rs. 5,000 from the Mayor's Emergency Relief Fund was placed at the disposal of the Municipal Commissioner towards the extension of relief. The Trustees of the Sir Dorab Tata Charity Trust have donated Rs. 10,000 to be utilised by the Municipal Commissioner.

The Civil Hospitals Emergency Aid Committee, recently formed in Bombay, sanctioned a sum of Rs. 6,000 for emergency purposes to hospitals. Supplies of bandages, lint, gauze, antisceptics, towels, blanckets etc. were made available to the J. J. and G. T. group of hospitals. Other stocks for any other hospital which may require them were notified.

It is stated that blood donors have been pouring into the centres organised by the Committee. A record number of donors —150—was stated to have been reached on Saturday. Blood and plasma were made available to the J. J. hospital on Friday night.

Vikram Celebration Committee Relief Centre

The Vikramaditya Celebrations Committee has opened a relief centre at Hansraj Baug, Hansraj Lane, off Byculla Bridge. The public are requested to guide homeless destitutes to the above relief centre where arrangements are made to provide accommodation, food etc.

Enquiries in this connection should be made from Seth Ghelabhai Sunderji Tel. No. 46303, Ishwarbhai B. Patel 43951, Ratilal G. Parekh 89585, K. S. Amin 32373 and Dr. D. G. Vyas 41741. Contributions for the purpose will be gratefully received at the office of the Committee 16, Yusuf Building, Churchgate Street, at Monji Sunderji & Co., Jer Mahal, Dhobi Talao and at Alembic Distributors Ltd., Laxmi Bldg., Sir P. Mehta Road, Bombay.

128 Dead Bodies Removed To Morgue

BOMBAY, Saturday.

THE LATEST FIGURES OF THE DEAD BODIES REMOVED TO THE MORGUE ARE ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHT.

FIRE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL

BOMBAY, April 15.

The fire which followed the two explosions in the docks was brought under control after nearly 12 hours about six in the morning. The fire services, the military, the police and A.R.P. men relentlessly fought the fire throughout the evening and night. Military and police cordoned off the affected area and effectively prevented looting. The measures taken by the Government and Military authorities also resulted in localising the fire, though from the dock area it quickly spread to highly congested areas lying parallel to the docks.

Immediately after the explosions thousands of people residing in the areas adjoining the docks hurriedly left for places of safety, carrying with them as much of their valuables and other belongings as they could. By about 7 p.m. practically all residents in the affected areas had voluntarily evacuated, and this voluntary evacuation proved a great boon when the conflagration spread to areas outside the docks. Thousands of families encamped themselves in open maidans for the whole night, which some of the luckier ones who had friends and relations biletted themselves on them.

A drive round the affected areas shows that the fire is completely under control, and squads of military, fire-fighting services and others are now engaged in the work of clearing the debris, and completely extinguishing the dying embres of the fire.

HOSPITALS BUSY DAY AND NIGHT

All the main city hospitals worked with full complement all evening and night attending to the large number of casualties which continued to pour till a late hour in the night.

H. E. the Governor of Bombay who visited the affected area immediately after the explosions constantly kept himself in personal touch with the military commander and the police authorities.

Leaping flames spreading over a wide area lit the skies and the glow of the fire could be seen from miles away.

The first reports of the Bombay docks fire which began on Friday afternoon show that hundreds of lives and a very large quantity of stores and equipment were saved by Servicemen who were sent to the scene, writes a military observer.

It was in fact a large-scale combined operation. All night, navy, army and air force officers and men worked among the blazing godowns, rescuing many injured and trapped dock workers and preventing the flames from getting out of hand.

This morning many parties of service fire-fighting crews were withdrawn for a rest, but others at once took their place.

TWO ISOLATED FIRES

The freshening night breeze stirred up two isolated fires which had been smouldering throughout the day. This did not, however, effect the general situation which as reported earlier was under control.

Owners of warehouses in the fire area were permitted by the police to visit their premises during the day as the danger subsided.—A. P.

BOMBAY GOVT. COMMUNIQUE

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The Bombay Government have issued the following communique:—

"As a result of the fire which occurred yesterday over 1,000 people were injured and removed to hospital. Of these over half had only minor injuries and were treated and allowed to go home, the rest being detained for further treatment. Sixty-seven of the injured persons have died in hospital.

The fire spread to a congested part of the city and burnt out a number of houses, rendering homeless a few thousand people. Relief measures have been inaugurated in cooperation with the municipality.

Stocks of grain are among the material destroyed, but this will not affect the rationing arrangement now in force. Special arrangements have been made by the Rationing Department for supplies to those who have been rendered homeless".—A. P.

FRIDAY'S HAPPENINGS

A series of explosions in the dock area took place in Bombay on Frida afternoon causing consternation among the citizens. Buildings trembled windows rattled violently. The rattling of windows and the glass-frames being smashed as a result of which several passers-by were hit by the splinters. Roads were littered with broken pieces of glass. With a burst of thundering sound came the first explosion at couple of minutes after 4 p. m. An accidental fire which broke out in a ship in the docks was responsible for these explosions and before it could be brought under control it spread to some ammunition causing violent explosion which shook the city. The fire also spread to the adjacent godowns. The City fire services and military were immediately on the scene. Ambulances full of wounded persons were employed in removing the victims from affected zones. The operation theatres were kept busy tending to the wounded. A number of casualties were caused by blast and splinters inside and outside the dock area.

Immediately after the first big explosion people in adjacent area and other centres rushed out of their offices.

A thick pall of smoke covered the sky. Workers, both men and women, were completely blackened by soot, while some others limped hospital-wards with minor injuries. A visit to the hospitals revealed 1,000 casualties. Beds were spread out on the ground, in the corridors and elsewhere, to meet the rush of incoming cases. Hospital telephones were busy sending calls to private practitioners to come to assist the hospital staff. The aid of private nurses was also summoned.

Women and children walked out of the houses in the danger zones which were cordoned off by the police, military and naval personnel and evacuated for the purposes of safety.

The scene of accident presented an appearance of twisted iron pieces thrown about.

Fires broke out in buildings in affected area and were raging till late at night.

The fires were caused by the inflammable matter that was thrown skyward by the effect of the explosion. One building received a direct hit with a piece of metal which caused fatal injuries to six persons.

Every available fire engine was rushed to the spot. Many shops were closed after the incident. Trams and other vehicular traffic remained suspended in several areas for a considerable time.

The figures of casualties are more than a thousand admitted to hospitals of whom 67 have died.

Further Retreat Of German And Rumanian Troops

BERLIN "COMMUNIQUE" ON EVACUATION OF FEODOSIA AND SIMFEROPOL

BERLIN, April 15.

To-day's German 'communique' said German and Rumanian troops in the Crimea retreated further to the south-west fighting continuously against Russian formations in "hot pursuit."

"The towns of Feodosia and Simferopol were evacuated", the 'communique' said.—Reuter.

GENERAL VATUTIN DEAD

MOSCOW, April 15.

The Moscow radio announced early today that General Vatutin is dead, following a serious operation.–

Vatutin, the Commander of the Great Russian offensive in the Ukraine in the winter of 1943-44, was the most meteoric of all Russian generals excepting perhaps General Rokossovsky. He excelled in the use of artillery and invented new methods of using it which became the standard for the Russian army. He also had a genius for swift improvisations to meet unexpected developments.

SOVIET ADVANCE IN CRIMEA

LONDON, April 15: The German news agency military correspondent Colonel Ernst von Hanmer disclosed today that advancing Russian forces have reached the Crimea's south-west mountain area.—Reuter.

THOUSANDS HOMELESS

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The fires which started yesterday, though they have been brought under control, are still burning. The fire brigade and the military are doing everything possible to restore situation to the normal.

Several thonsands who have been rendered homeless from being evacuated from the danger zones, are to be seen in all parts of Bombay with their meagre belongings. Some of them having to leave their homes without any warning, could not carry with them any money.

CATTLE JOIN EXODUS

A piquant touch was lent to the general situation by the sight of a large herd of cattle, which joined the exodus from stables this afternoon.

The B. B. and C. I. Railway are working hard to cope with the increased number of passengers.

The trains on the north-east section, that is, the Peshawar Express, the Calcutta Mail, via Nagpur, the Calcutta Mail via Cheoki, and the Punjab Mail arrived at and left from Bombay Central instead of Victoria Terminus.

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Wanted Influential and Experienced Representatives for selling shares on lucrative terms. Apply to the Secretary "Shares & Securities Dept.", Darjeeling Bank Ltd., Bhowanipur, Calcutta. (8415)

Wanted Gujarati-knowing B. T.s or T. D.s for Gram-Seva Mandir High School at Nardipur, North Gujarat. Start with high salary. Provident Fund. Quarter Free. Climate Bracing. Apply Secretary. (4441)

Wanted—an experienced manufacturing Chemist on decent remuneration to manufacture Textile Bleaching, Dyeing Auxiliaries to Box No. 4604, "Bombay Chronicle."

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PUBLIC NOTICES.

B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY
NOTICE

The Enquiry and Berth Reservation Office situated in the Head Offices at Church Gate will be kept open to-day (Sunday 16th April, 1944) between 10 A.M. and 5-30 P.M. to facilitate booking of 1st and 2nd class passengers. (8498)

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In view of the calamitous explosion and fire which has so grievously affected some of our most generous supporters it has been decided to postpone the Inauguration and Variety Entertainment fixed for SUNDAY, at 4-30 P.M. to some later and more appropriate occasion of which notice will be given.

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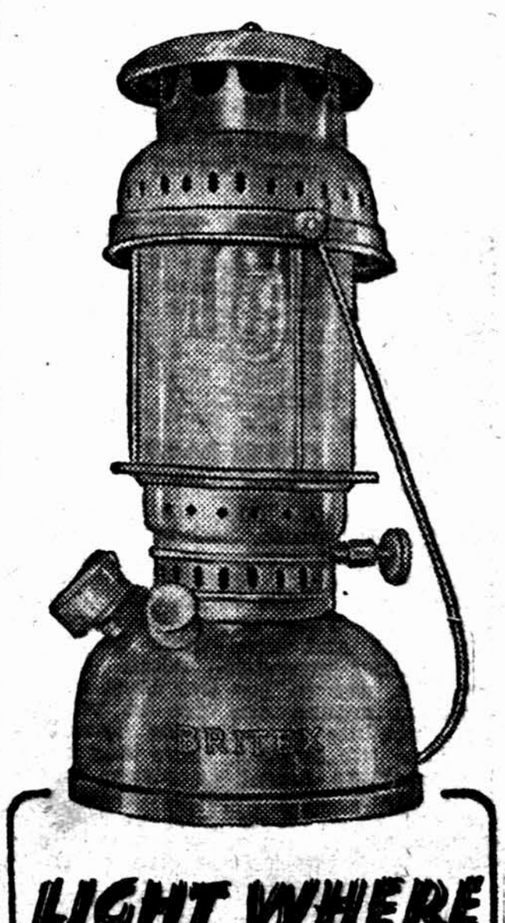

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W.I.S.C.A.'s SUCCESS IN RANJI TROPHY

By J. C. MAITRA

As was expected, W.I.S.C.A., the conquerors of the redoubtable Bombay team, won the Championship. But I think the margin of defeat—an innings and 23 runs—is far too flattering to the Western India States. On their actual performance they were no doubt superior to their opponents in every department of the game. But I must say that Bengal went down rather too tamely than their strength warranted. After winning the toss and taking the first lease of the wicket, their batsmen went on in a way as if they could hold their fort to eternity. They faced all the W.I.S.C.A. bowlers with a confidence which promised a massive total in the long run. If they did not possess a large fund of stamina—as I was told later on—they should have attacked the bowling soon after they got the full measure of it. The difficulty was that they had no attacking strokes in their repertoire worth talking about.

UNDESERVED RESPECT

While the first four of Bengal's batsmen, Jabbar, Ashit Chatterjee Khokan Sen and Nirmal Chatterjee contributed 35, 68, 61 and 40 respectively the remaining batsmen squeezed out 18 runs between themselves. Gandhi claimed 6 wickets for 50 runs. Sayeed Ahmed and Akbar Khan conceded 20 and 28 runs respectively in their 28 and 25 overs, the former hooking one wicket in the bargain! I do not believe that their bowling so tight that the batsmen could not take any liberty with it. It was really their inherent batting defect which presented the bowlers with a respectful submission from them. Nirmal Chatterjee showed this in the second innings with delightful freedom and courage.

WEAK FIELDING HELPS W.I.S.C.A.

The W. I. S. C. A. batsmen might have fared much worse if the Bengal fielders had supported their bowlers well. As it was, Bengal had no fast or slow bowlers in their stock. Only fielding of a high order could make up for these serious difficiencies even though to a certain extent. Umar Khan, who scored 75 on his own account and registered the most fruitful partnership of 113 runs for the third wicket along with Kishenchand, had as many as three lives. The whole aspect of the fight might have been changed if he was held at the first opportunity. However, it is all in the game and nobody should grudge the batsman and W.I.S.C.A. their share of luck!

WHAT A ROUT!

The fate of the match was practically decided when W.I.S.C.A. closed its initial venture with a lead of 199 runs. But nobody had dreamt that the end would be hastened in so dramatic a manner as it actually did. The batsmen who had stuck on for hours together in the first innings were sent back within 20 minutes for the insignificant score of 12! Sayeed Ahmed was the bowler who caused this sensational rout. 3 wickets for 3 runs tells its own tale. He added one more to his bag conceding 4 more runs. Thereafter Nirmal Chatterjee and Deb made gallant efforts to save an innings defeat but they were of no avail Chatterjee's stout-hearted batting yielded 71 runs in 88 minutes

COMMANDING SUPERIORITY

So the Trophy remained in the province which gave birth to the great Ranji whose name it commemorates—incidentally proving the commanding superiority of Western India in the cricket world of India. Since its inception in 1934, the trophy has gone elsewhere only twice, Bengal claiming it once in 1938-39. In presenting the trophy to Barritt, the W.I.S.C.A. Captain, Sir Homi Mody, President of the C.C.I. referred to the over-prepared wicket of the present day. He wished he could do something to make it more helpful to the bowlers. It is quite true that everything is being done to help the batsmen, while the bowlers are left to their mercy. To make cricket really attractive and exciting, the time-limit must be restricted to three or four days. If considered desirable, the period may be equally divided between the two sides. So that a definite result may be obtained.

Another thing which Sir Homi mentioned was the paucity of spectators. He attributed it to the non-communal character of the competition. In his view only communal cricket can draw a big crowd. He stoutly repudiated the contention that the Pentangular engendered communal disharmony. May I ask Sir Homi if communal sport encourages the spirit of nationalism? In a country which is so sadly disrupted, is it right for sportsmen to do things which instead of helping national solidarity, promotes communal jealousy and ill-feeling? It is all very well to blame the politicians for the present mess. But what is the cause of disruption in the country?

Approach It In A Spirit Of Compromise

S. African Press On Settlement Of Indian Problem

JOHANNESBURG, April 14.

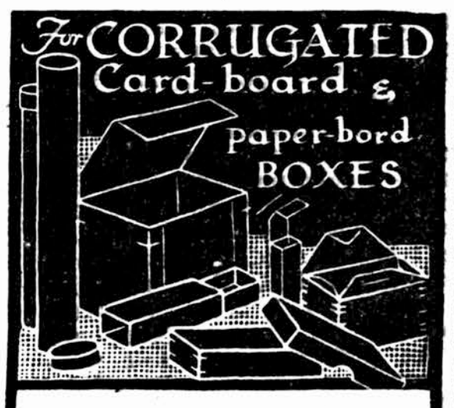
The 'Natal Mercury' says: "The debate in the Assembly on the question of Indian in Natal took the most unfortunate turn, for the matter is a delicate one, and certain Durban members went out of their way to create an atmosphere which would make a solution impossible. Can anyone who faces the position realistically think for a moment that the Indian in this province can much longer be treated as is being treated to-day." The Indian problem in Natal reduced to the simplest proportions was: Should the Indian be repatriated or should his presence be accepted and an effort made to absorb him as a useful citizen.

The 'Mercury' says no one has yet put forward a reasonable scheme to get rid of the Indian, and he must therefore be accepted as a growing part of the community. That being so, he must somehow be fitted into the life of the community. To settle the problem, both the Indian and the European must approach it in a spirit of compromise.

"If this is not done, there can be nothing but intensification of chaos and confusion which now exists."

The "Natal Witness' in an editorial headed "Our Rip Van Winkles" says "The debate in Parliament on the Indian problem must inspire a sense of amazement in many minds that even at this late hour such opposition based on complete obscurantism should prevail towards the attempt to solve this problem. We congratulate Mr. Abraham Goldberg on the forthright repudiation of the Rip Van Winkleism of his fellow party members. Either those members have been soundly asleep for years and do not realise that public opinion has left them far behind or they are merely stupidly, stubbornly and perhaps wilfully oblivious to the fact that this is no longer a Durban or even a Natal problem. It has become a question of international concern.

The paper adds that Mr. Clarkson undoubtedly scored heavily over the Rip Van Winkles and has at least taken a practical step to find some solution that will be just to the Indians and meet the wishes of the majority of the people in South Africa.--Reuter.



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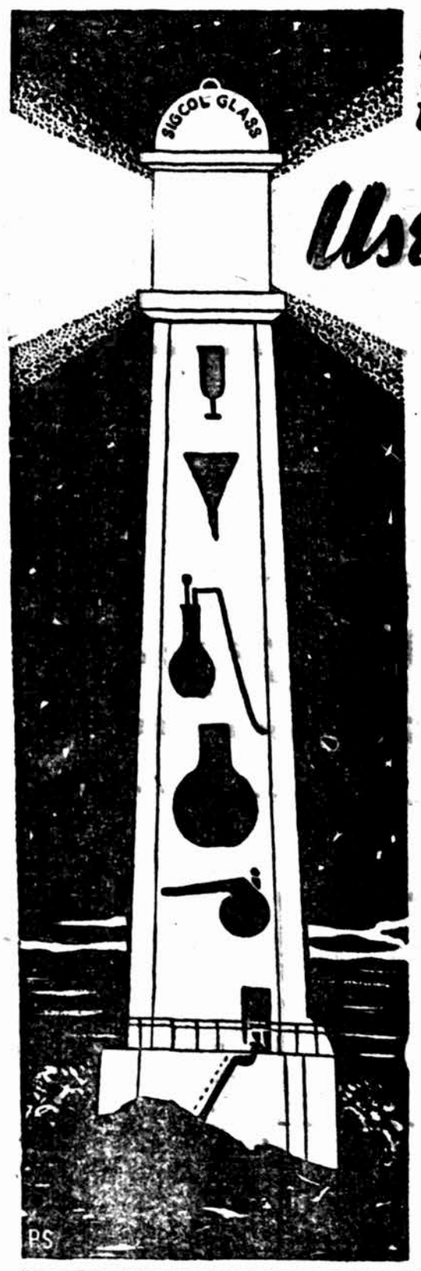

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CUT-FACES COMPETITION

This competition is so simple and at the same time attractive that it will surely appeal to all those who take part in our competitions. There is not the least doubt that this competition will be found interesting by old as well as young of both the sexes, so we hope that many of our readers will take part in it, especially as we are offering a special prize of Rs. 3,000 this time. This indeed offers a very good opportunity of earning a subtantial amount with reasonable chances of success.

The two sets of illustrations one marked A. B. C. ..... and the other numbered, 1, 2, 3 .... show cut portions of faces. You are asked to pick out the two portions which when joined at the dotted lines make a complete face. You will get a prize if your combinations for the faces correspond with those selected by us.

For example, the upper half of "H" is shown in No. 8. If the dotted line of "8" is placed exactly on that of "H" you would get the perfect face of a woman. In order to illustrate this the upper half of the face as depicted in No. 8 is shown shaded in "H". Thus No. 8 is entered against "H" in the coupon.

You may similarly fill in the rest of the coupon and send as many entries as you like with annas eight per coupon before Wednesday 3rd May, 1944 subject to and observing the following rules:

1. Competitor's name and address must be written in full in block Capital letters on each and every entry coupon

2. Entries will be received at the counter during Office Hours from 10-30 a.m. to 6-30 p.m.

3. Solution of this Competition will be accepted only on our entry coupons. Not more than one number should be entered against each letter.

4. Entrance Fee can be remitted by Money Order or by Postal Order or by Postage Stamps. Insufficient amount will disqualify all the entries.

5. All entries must be received in this Office by the last Post on the closing date given below. Any entry received after this date will not be included in the competition.

6. Corrected of mutilated entries or those having more than one number entered against any letter will be disqualified

7. In case of ties, the Management reserves the right to distribute the Prize Money among the winning competitors in any manner they like.

8. No responsibility is accepted for any entry coupon mislaid lost or delayed Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt

9. In no case will any entrance fee or money sent with entry coupons be refunded or credited to another competition or account. No communication will be accepted and replied to if it is sent along with the entry coupon If any correspondence is sent along with the entries Competition Department will not be held responsible in any way

10. This Competition is run by the Bombay Chronicle Co. Ltd., but readers of the "Bombay Samachar" and the "Bombay Sentinel" can also take part in it. This Competition has been licensed by the Collector of Bombay under Licence No. 6 dated 12th May 1941.

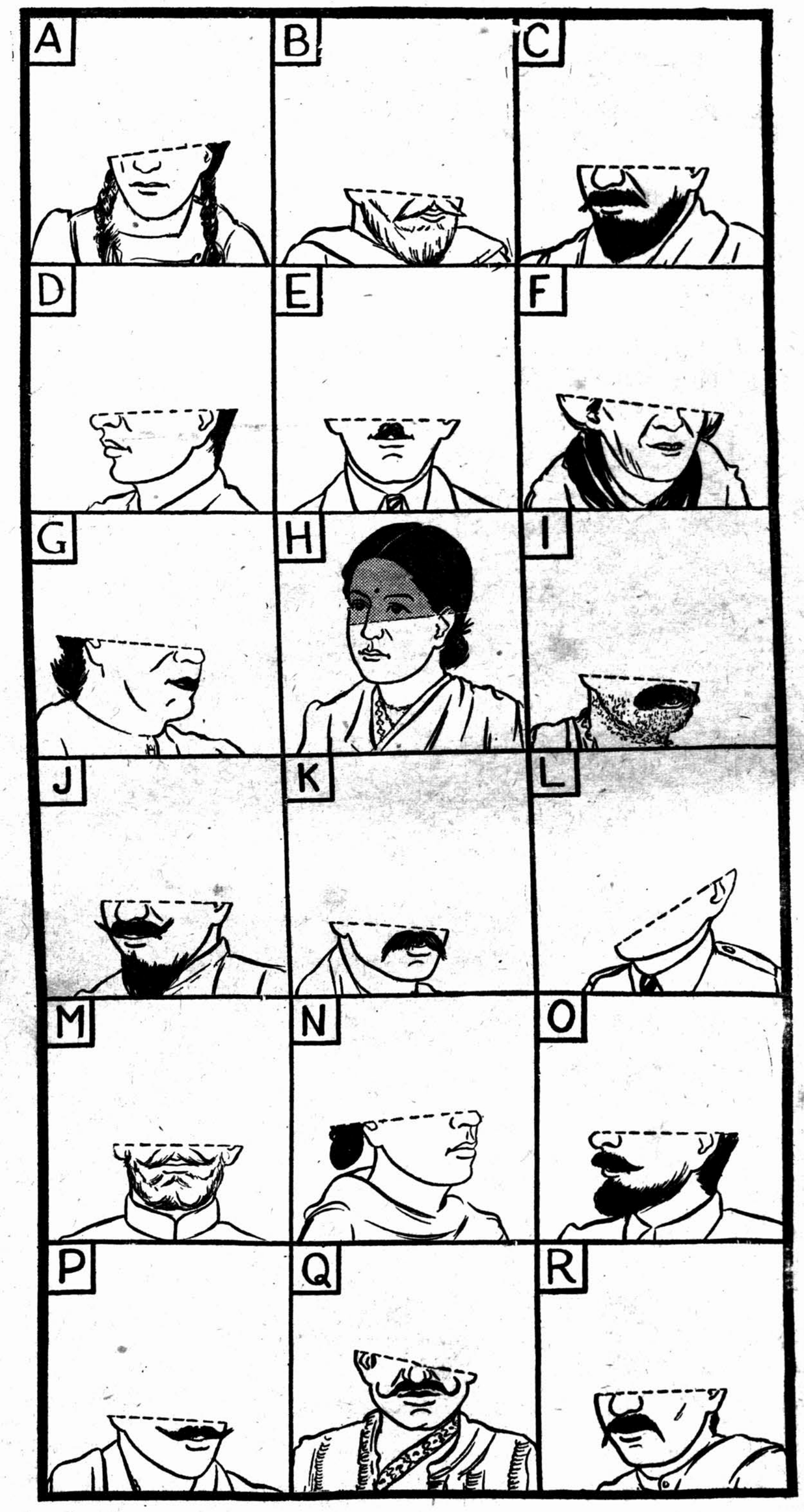
11. Under NO circumstances correspondence will be entered into or interviews granted in connection with this competition

12. All Competitors enter this competition on the distinct understanding that the Competition Manager's decision is absolutely final and legally binding in all matters pertaining to this Competition This is an express condition of entry

Entries by Registered post should be addressed as under:—
COMPETITION MANAGER,
The Bombay Chronicle Co., Ltd.,
Red House,
Parsee Bazaar Street,
Fort, BOMBAY.

Entries by Ordinary Post should be addressed as under:—
Post Box No. 706 G.P.O. Bombay.

CLOSING DATE WEDNESDAY 3RD MAY 1944



Cut-Faces Competition 16/4/44.

A B C D E F G 8 I J K L M N O P Q R

I have read the rules and conditions of this Competition and I agree to abide by them.

Name .....

Address .....

RUPEES 3,000 IN PRIZES

Cut-Faces Competition
16/4/44.

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Cut-Faces Competition
16/4/44.

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Cut-Faces Competition
16/4/44.

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I have read the rules and conditions of this Competition and I agree to abide by them.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Additional Entry Coupons, Price Two Annas For A Sheet Containing Eight Coupons

LICENCE NO. 6 DATED 12TH MAY 1941

VICTORY THROUGH AIR POWER

APRIL, 14.

"A new phase of intensive air campaign over Germany has begun."

This was the dramatic announcement made by Mr. Henry Stimson at a Press Conference on Thursday last. The American Secretary of State for War proceeded: "The last two weeks have seen full use of American and British air power. From 1,500 to 2,000 planes at a time have been battering Nazi centres of aeroplane factories and installations."

The concentrated attention which the Allied air forces are paying to the destruction of the German aircraft industry and to the softening up of German communications in Western Europe is significant. In fact it is an unmistakable prelude to the opening of the second front. The Allies have at last gained the "glittering prize" of air supremacy and they are using it remorselessly in their two-way, two-fisted, night-and-day bombing raids on Festung Europa.

The air net has been recently drawn tight over Hitler's Europe. Though the Reich still deservedly receives the lion's share of the air boomerang, its puppets and satellites, too, are now coming more and more under the Allied bomb-sight. Aachen, which is on one of the principal railway routes between Germany, Belgium and Northern France, is naturally receiving high priority, it being bombed so far twenty times. Other railway centres and aerodromes in north-western Europe are also coming increasingly in the picture. It has been computed that the number of Allied aircraft which visited assorted pre-invasion targets during the last week runs into five figures

Long Air Arm

So colossal is the air strength that the Allies have mustered that over and above keeping up this unceasing air bombardment of Germany and north-western Europe, they are also able to lend a hand to clear the way of the Red Army into the Balkans. Budapest has long been known as the crossroads of Europe. There converge two railways from Vienna on either side of the Danube which link south-eastern Europe with Germany. From Budapest again diverge lines on which German forces holding Rumania and Bulgaria depend for their supplies and reinforcement.

The capital of German-occupied Hungary has thus become to-day a highly valued objective and the Allies have already visited it in force three times since the beginning of this month. This has not only helped to paralyse the German line of supply to the Russian front but has also dealt a severe blow to the morale of the Hungarian people. The latest attack was delivered by means of four thousand-pound blockbusters and Budapest is already on the way of becoming a miniature edition of Berlin. Bucharest, too, is receiving the attention of the Allies though in a smaller measure.

The long arm of the naval air force has also sought the German battleship "Tirpitz" in her lair in the Alten fjord of North Norway and dealt it a crippling blow. This probably marks the ignonimous end of the pocket German navy which if never a serious menace to the Royal Navy was always a latent threat to the Allied merchantships. Similarly the Allied bombing has virtually taken the sting out of Hitler's principal weapon against Britain—the U-boats—though the joint statement recently issued by President Roosevelt and Premier Churchill reveals that a considerable number of them are still in operation. For example the repeated bombing of Augsburg, which used to turn out 50 per cent of Nazi U-boat Diesel engines, has knocked out most of its plants and Admiral Doenitz will be hard put to it to replace his losses.

A Mighty Record

The accelerating tempo of the Allied air offensive is strikingly revealed by the following figures of concentration bombing in the successive years of war. In the first year the R.A.F. dropped one ton of bombs a day over the enemy. In the second year 55 and in the third 90 tons a day. In the fourth year the curve rose steeply to 430 tons a day while in the first three months of the present year Germany and occupied Europe have received a daily dose of 660 tons! In other words 60,000 tons of all types of bombs were dropped out of which the quota of March alone was 28,000!

To this terrific load must be added the contribution of the United States Air Force which (in the words of Churchill) has definitely overtaken the R.A.F. in the force they have established in Britain. While between August 1942 and the end of 1943 the U.S.A., A.F. dropped nearly 50,000 tons of bombs, their contribution for the last three months has reached the stupendous total of 78,000 tons, thus excelling the performance of the R.A.F itself!

Still more striking figures were supplied by General Doolittle, the Commander of the 8th U.S.A. A.F. in Britain who pointed out that in February and March an invading force of 170,000 American airmen flew over Europe at will and destroyed 2,100 German aircraft! All this big record thoroughly justifies the claim made by the British Prime Minister in his last broadcast that "The tables are turned. Those who sought to destroy their enemies by the most fearful form of warfare are themselves reeling and writhing under the prodigious blows of British and American air power."

Terrible Damage

Naturally no exact figures of the destruction wrought upon Germany's industrial capacity are available. The estimates vary and after all the Nazis try their best to hide the damage from even the German people themselves. Six months ago it was suggested that thirty per cent of German war factories were destroyed. Since then, of course, the bombing has been stepped up and the damage also must be relatively higher. In Berlin alone, for example, 826 out of 1,500 factories were hit (326 of them being either destroyed or severely damaged) in the three months following the middle of November last. Though the remaining factories must by making a pretence of working, Berlin as an industrial centre exists no longer

Regarding the effect of strategic bombing on Germany's power to make war, Sir Archibald Sinclair, Britain's Air Minister, stressed the following three points:

(1) That the effect is colossal no longer admits of the slightest doubt. Precise assessment of the results on particular targets is impossible. Even photographs do not tell the whole story.

(2) There is a gap between the destruction of a plant and the time when the result of that destruction is felt on the fighting front in diminishing supplies. For example, the great series of attacks on Krupps Works which opened last year's bomber campaign only began to be felt last autumn by the German armies on the Russian front.

(3) Another concrete example of the results of the combined British and American offensive is the reduction in the planned output of German fighter aircraft.

Crowley's Analysis

An analysis on different lines was provided recently by Leo T. Crowley, the United States Foreign Economic Administrator. According to him the Nazi regime was still able, as late as last summer, to secure substantial increases in the production of a number of most important weapons and munitions, by the most strenuous possible exertions. They were still able to keep up with the effects of the bombings, to replace their manpower, material and factory losses and even meet their rising schedules. Since the intensification of the bombing attack last summer and even more since the more terrible bombings beginning in February, 1944, a good part of the German industrial scene has become an agonised scramble merely to maintain as much of the present production as they can.

"The Germans are now reduced to attempting to stave off losses, to replace and disperse industry, to expend everything for the war purposes of the day at whatever cost to the future." Mr. Crowley believes that the Germans can still do so for an indefinite period but the cost thereof is bound to be a frightful one. Disregarding the effects of the still heavier of offensives, the process might go on for another year or so. But to continue even another year at the present rate, would produce a crippling of German economic life without a parallel for centuries.

Twin Processes

The conclusions arrived at by Sir Archibald Sinclair and Mr. Leo T. Crowley will be found to be complimentary to each other though their phraseology is different. But in view of the third point made by Sir Archibald, the revelation made recently by a R.A.F. commentator that the German front line fighter strength had increased by between 200 and 300 in the last five months must have come as an unpleasant surprise to many. It only shows, however, the desperate efforts made by the Nazis to squeeze out the last plane from their plants and, in fact, it bears out the warning of Mr. Crowley regarding German improvisation. ...significant in this context that the latest Allied bombing attacks are concentrated upon aeroplane plants with a view to inflict new damage and to disrupt repairs. And in that process a heavy toll is being taken of the German fighter force. The twin processes of destruction of factories and attrition of the existing strength of the Luftwaffe are thus going on simultaneously and their effect will be evident at a critical moment in the not too distant future.

When will that moment arise? In other words when will the second front be launched? General Dwight Eisenhower, the Supreme C.-in-C. of the Allied invasion forces, told American pilots the other day that the time was coming when they would be needed to fly from dawn to dusk. He was going to demand everything they had, he said. He would drive them so hard that they would have no sleep or food for weeks—and they would still knock the Germans out of the sky!

Day Of Days

Knock the Germans out of the sky!"—The words are prophetic. It shows that even the Supreme Generalissimo of the Allies has become a believer in the "Victory Through Air Power" school of thought. All those months the work of destruction and softening up through air bombing has gone on grimly and unceasingly regardless the heavy price both Britain and the United States have had to pay for it. And now, putting two and two together and making six out of them, I feel that the climax of the air war is in sight. The greatest battle in history for which the world has been keyed up all those months cannot be long postponed now. The day of days may dawn any day now. It may even dawn with the new moon next weekend.

A WEEK OF WAR By N. G. Jog

LITTLE FEAR OF ANGLO-AMERICAN TRADE WAR

Member Of Parliamentary Goodwill Mission Speaks On Post War Economic Reconstruction

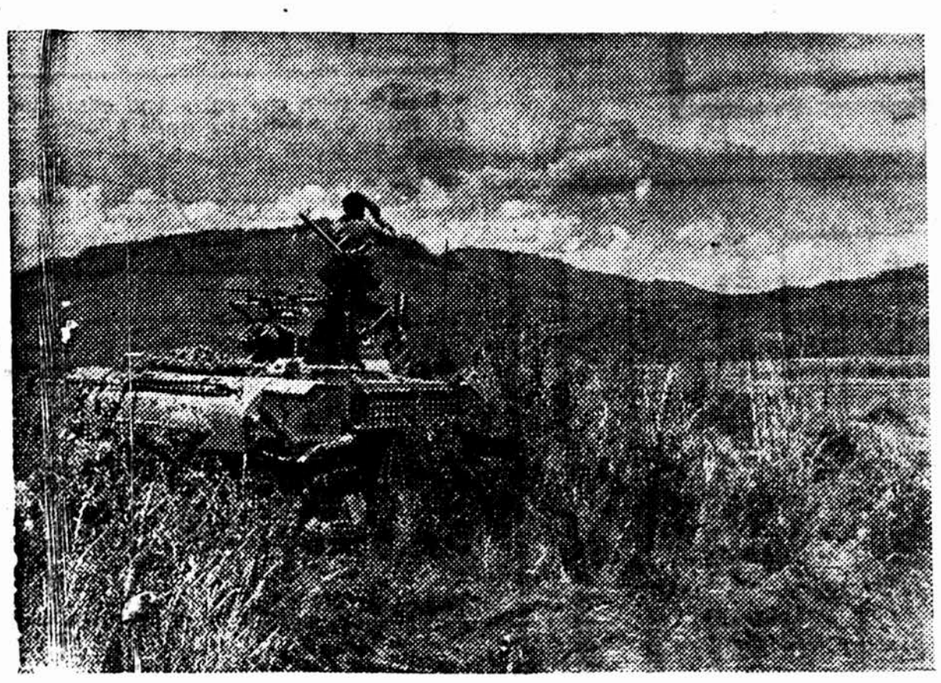
NEW YORK, April 14.

There is little fear of a trade war between Britain and the United States in the post-war era. Captain L. D. Gammans, member of the Parliamentary Goodwill Trade Mission, said in a speech here at the conclusion of his three week visit to the Eastern hemisphere.

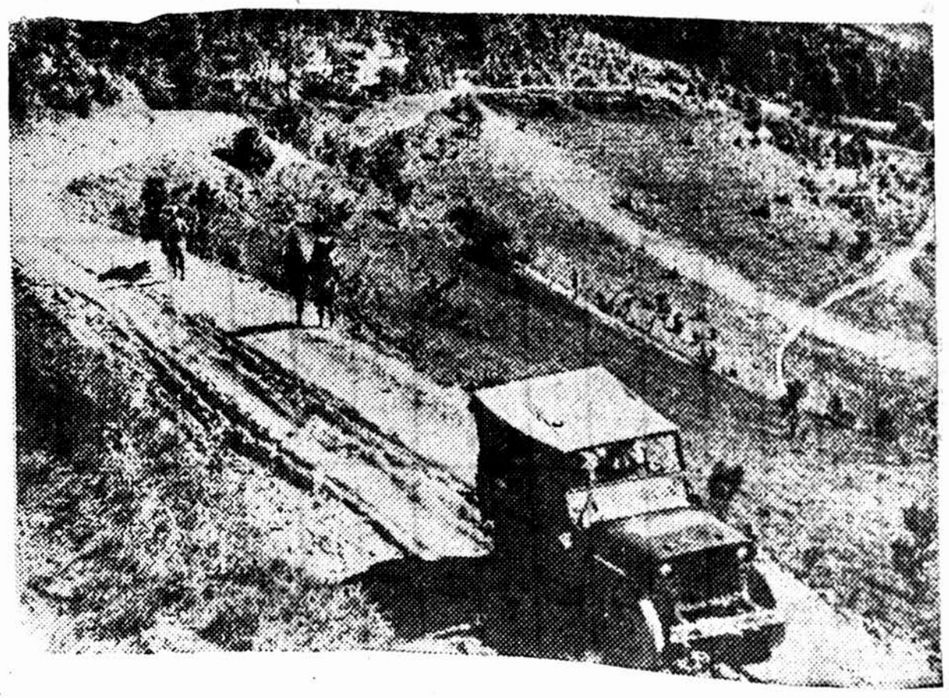
He said: "In post-war economic reconstruction there appears to be a divergence of thought between the United States and Great Britain in two respects Most businessmen in America believe that full employment can be secured and properly maintained solely on the basis of unrestricted private enterprise. We in Britain believe that there must be partnership between private enterprise, the State, organised labour and management.

In international trade some people believe that economic rivalry for export markets between the two countries is inevitable. I do not share that view. For one thing I cannot see how the United States is going to export at all if she maintains a high tariff's policy.

It is not much use having grandiose ideas of what you are going to sell to China, India or Australia unless you can say beforehand what these countries are going to sell you. In the long run foreign trade must balance unless you are going to lend your customers money to buy your goods as the United States did in the nineteen twenties with no hope of getting it back."



An Indian-manned light tank on reconnaissance along the lines of communications near the Imphal-Ukhrul Road.



Tiddim Road—the scene of recent fighting in the Chin Hills.

CITY AND SUBURBS

TO-DAY

Hindu: Chaitra Vad 8, 2000
Muslim: Rabi-ul-Akher 22, 1363
Parsi: Avan 15, 1313
Sunrise: 7-22 a.m. Sunset: 7-54 p.m.
Hightide: 4-46 18-15. Lowtide 11-03

Marathi Stage Centenary at 9-30 p.m. near Charni Road Station: "Satteche Gulam" and some theatrical scenes.

To-day's Engagements

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION: No meeting of the Corporation on Monday.

HINDU MILITARIZATION BOARD: Flight-Lieut. Sukhtankar will speak on "On to Battle with Air Force" today (Sunday) at 10-30 a.m. at Ramnarain Ruia College.

SHIVAJI PARK CHARKHA SANGH: The National Week celebration in Plot No. 132, Meena House, Road No. 2, Shivaji Park, Dadar, today (Sunday) at 5-30 p.m. Mrs. Annusuya Bai Kale, presides. Communal Unity, Untouchability, Khadi and Rashtra Bhasha Prachar will be subjects of addresses.

INDIAN CONCERT at Victoria Gardens, Byculla-Bombay, to-day (Sunday) from 6-30 to 8-30 p.m. (S.T.) by Prof. K. D. Tendulkar.

BAND MUSIC at Chowpatty Bandstand, Bombay, to-day (Sunday) from 6-45 to 8-45 p.m. (S.T.) by the City Police Band.

GAUDIYA MISSION: Upadesak Pandit Nitaidas Ragalankar on "Analysis of Bhakti" in English, 6-30 p.m. to-day (Sunday). "Sankirtanam" will precede and follow, at Sri Gaudiya Math, Culliandas Building, Gowalia Tank Road.

KANNADA SPRING LECTURES: Mr. Dinkar Desai to speak on Geocultural aspects of Karnatak Unity in Wagle Memorial Hall, Girgaum today (Sunday) at 4-30 p.m. Mr. R. S. Rao will preside.

INDIAN SPIRITUALIST SOCIETY: A discourse and seances will be held at 51 Gordhandas Building, opposite Portuguese Church, Girgaum, to-day (Sunday) at 6 p.m.

NADAVA WELFARE FUND: The inauguration of the Bunt alias Nadava Welfare Fund will take place at the National Medical College Hall at 3-30 p.m. to-day (Sunday) under the Chairmanship of Dr. M. Venkatrao, J.P.

CULTURAL CONFERENCE: Mr. R. D. Aurangabadkar, General Secretary, Cultural Conference, writes:— At the Sessions of the Cultural Conference to be held to-day (Sunday), Funds will be raised for the relief of the victims of the tragedy that happened on Friday. The Funds will be handed over to Mrs. Tara Ali Baig, President of the Conference for Relief Work.

VIDYADAINI SABHA: Annual general body meeting to-day (Sunday) at 3 p.m. (S.T.) at the Batliboi's Accountancy Training Institute, Marzban Road, Fort.

MODI BROTHERS' SILVER JUBILEE: The Silver Jubilee celebrations of Messrs. Modi Brothers which were to be held at Excelsior Theatre to-day (Sunday) have been postponed; the new date for the above will be announced in due course.

ARYAN EDUCATION SOCIETY'S OLD STUDENTS' UNION: A meeting of Past, Present Students and Past and Present Workers of the Society, will be held to-day (Sunday) at 5 p.m. (N.S.T.) in the A.E.S. School Hall, near Opera House Tram Terminus, to consider the question of commemorating the services of Messrs. N. V. Kuvalekar, V. V. Virkar, H. C. Bhagwat, N. S. Nayak—retired teachers of A. E. Society and Mr. G. A. Limaye, a present teacher, who is due to retire by the end of this year. Dr. K. S. Mhaskar, Chairman of A. E. S. Council of Management, will preside.

3 ARTS AND ACADEMY OF ISLAM GRAND FUNCTION, to meet and hear Shrimatis Kamla Devi and Sarojini Naidu, to-day (Sunday) at 4 p.m. at Anjuman-e-Islam Hall, Bori Bunder. Mme. Clarence Gasque, (Mother Gloria) of New York will preside. A programme of entertainment has been arranged.

UNITED LODGE OF THEOSOPHISTS: Public lecture on the subject of "The Return of The Soul", Jehangir Wadia Building, Flora Fountain to-day (Sunday) at 6-15 p.m.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION: Exhibition of Pictorial Photographs at the Photographic Society of India at 195, Hornby Road, opposite New Book Co., daily from 5 p.m. to 7-30 p.m. upto 19th April.

FOR CO-ORDINATION OF RELIEF OPERATIONS

Informal Meeting At Corporation Hall To-day

Mr. M. R. Masani, ex-Mayor of Bombay, and Mr. M. D. Bhat, Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay, have issued the following statement:—

"The disastrous fire which broke out on Fsiday has rendered homeless a large number of our citizens and provision of relief to them in the way of finding them shelter and providing them with food and clothing is an urgent necessity. We have been receiving several inquiries and offers of assistance from individuals and organizations since Friday night and are happy to note the public spirit that lies behind them. The Bombay Government have also expressed their wish that the Municipal administration should undertake the organization and supervision of relief operations.

In order to ensure that the services rendered by various non-official organizations are co-ordinated and are harnessed to the best purpose, we are inviting representatives of organizations of all kinds who are rendering or are desirous of rendering service to the victims of the disaster to an Informal Meeting at the Municipal Corporation Hall to-day (Sunday) at 2-30 p.m. (N.S.T.). We trust that the organizations concerned will depute representatives to attend the meeting.

Meanwhile we are glad to state that the Mayor's Emergency Relief Fund has voted Rs. 5,000 and the Sir D. J. Tata Trust has donated Rs. 10,000 as a first contribution towards immediate relief."

Appeal To Blood Donors

BOMBAY, April 15

Mrs. Baig, Chairman, Civil Hospitals Emergency Aid Committee has issued a statement in the course of which she says:—

Yesterday's explosion has caused many casualties and doctors working steadily till all hours, though supplied with plasma, could have used a very large supply of whole blood if those who had seen the appeals for blood during these last two months had volunteered instead of postponing the date of their blood donation, stocks of whole blood would have been grouped and numbered, ready for immediate use.

Blood donors are urgently needed now. Please communicate with the Hon. Secretary, Civil Blood Bank, 2nd floor, Industrial Assurance Building, Churchgate or phone 31181.

The Civil Hospitals Emergency Committee is issuing whatever extra supplies of bandages, splints, etc., the hospitals may need.—A. P.

PRINCE OF WALES MUSEUM

Gallleries Not Open To Visitors

The Director of Information writes: The Red Cross is to be accommodated in the Prince of Wales Museum, Bombay, as a war measure. As this necessitates the removal of exhibits to other galleries for storage, it will not be possible to keep these galleries open to visitors. The main building of the Museum will, therefore, be closed for the duration of the war.

The extension to the Museum, on the east side of the main building, where the most popular Natural History Section is housed and the famous antiquities from Mohenjodaro are displaced, will, however, remain open to the public. Entrance to the extension is from the passage in front of that building.

Scholarship For Workers In Artcraft

The Bombay Government is offering 10 special scholarships for hereditary workers in artcrafts, with the object of assisting them to improve the design, workmanship and utility of their products to suit modern tastes and requirements. The scholarships will be of the value of Rs. 30 a month each; and will be awarded to selected candidates from hereditary artisan classes, engaged in artistic handicrafts, such as gold and silversmiths, inlay workers and ivory and sandalwood carvers.

The scholarships will be tenable at the Sir J. J. School of Art, Bombay, or at any other suitable institution.

Applications should be made by May 10 to the Director of Industries (Old Custom House Yard, Fort, Bombay), from whom the prescribed form can be obtained.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE NEWS

The Governor of Bombay received the Hon. Sir Edward Benthall, Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council (War Transport) at Government House.

Lady Colville visited victims of the recent accident at St. George's Hospital and the Goculdas Teipal Hospital.

Freed From Nazis, They Return To India

BOMBAY, Saturday.

More than 300 Indian soldiers who had been prisoners of war in German and Italian hands have returned to India.

There were touching scenes as their ship berthed at Bombay.

The Governor of Bombay, Sir John Colville, went aboard the ship to welcome the men. He reviewed a parade on the deck and shook hands with the officers and V.C.O.s

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JAMNADAS DENIES IT

Labour Federation Does Not Get Rs. 13,000 Per Month

MADRAS, April 15.

Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, President of the Indian Federation of Labour has issued following:—

Mr. Jamnadas Mehta the President of the Indian Federation of Labour entirely contradicts the statement recently published that the Government of India have been paying Rs 13,000 monthly to the Indian Federation of Labour for conducting any propaganda. This question was raised at the last annual meeting of the Indian Federation of Labour held in Bombay in December last and considered by a sub-committee.

It was explained by Mr. M. N. Roy that the Federation received no financial contribution from the Government for any purpose. In the circumstances, Mr. Mehta wants it to be clearly understood that the Indian Federation of Labour receives no financial assistance of Rs. 13,000 as recently alleged in the press. Its income is entirely derived from its own affiliated unions. Its accounts are publicly published and the said Federation is under no obligation to render accounts to the Government or any other outside authority, in connection wth the alleged payment of Rs. 13,000 about which Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, the President of Indian Federation of Labour has no knowledge.—A. P.

Food Member Visits Explosion Area

BOMBAY, Saturday

The Food Member, Government of India, Sir J. P. Srivastava, before leaving Bombay this evening went over the areas affected by yesterday's explosion. He inspected the food grains godowns and saw the damage done to stocks of food grains.

It is understood that he promised to do his best to repair the loss. He was much impressed by the rescue work being done by the police, military and other services. He expressed his sympathy with those who had suffered and hoped that officials and non-officials would combine their resources and strength to push on with the task of rehabilitation.—United Press.

Photographic Exhibition

The exhibition of pictorial photography organised by the Photographic Society of India at its premises has on view the prize-winning and other select examples from the entries submitted for the Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola Memorial Shield Competition. The competition under the auspices of the society promises to stimulate the progress of photography. Interesting and varied material, which the exhibition represents, clearly demonstrates that photography is an art and not merely a mechanical process

The exhibits reveal some fine situations to which the cameraman, if he is gifted with artistic vision and imagination, would not fail to react; and one of such situations is noticed in "Rhythm and Grace"—the shield-winning exhibit of Mr. Homi K. Dadyburjor. "Rex" contributed by Dr. S. B. Cooper is another fine exhibit. "Maurice" by Mr. Jack DeSouza and "My Milk Teeth" by Mr. Z. D. Barni are charming portraits of the subjects that do not respond easily to the camera. "Thirsty" by Mr. Keki M. Moos, "Carefree" by Mr. I. I. Janmohamed, "Before Sept. 1939" by Mr. Y. M. Purav. "Off to the Town" by Mr. Prabhakar S. Adhav and "Homewards" by Mr. M. Martin also deserve notice.

D. G. V.

VANITA VIDYALAY: Annual gathering of the Vidyalay, to-day (Sunday) at 3-30 p.m. at Vanmali Hall, Dadar, when Mrs. Kamalabai Dongerkery will preside.

LATEST COMMERCIAL

COTTON (MAY)

New York, April 15

Previous closing	.....	21.03
To-day's opening	.....	21.04
Difference	.....	+ 01
To-day's closing	.....	21.05
Difference	.....	+02

DENA BANK MANDVI BRANCH

Books And Cash Are Safe

All the documents, Books of Accounts and Cash of the Mandvi Branch of the Devkaran Nanji Bank have been safely removed to the Head Office. All the business of the Mandvi Branch is being conducted at present at the Head Office at Elphinstone Circle as usual. Loss of Rs. 2 lakhs in Cash is proved baseless.

HEAVY JAP CASUALTIES IN BATTLE FOR IMPHAL

Fighting Develops In Bishenpore-Silchar Road Area

ASSAM-BURMA FRONT, April 15.

Fighting is now taking place in the Imphal plain itself according to to-day's S.E.A.C. 'communique', which for the first time reports local actions "in the Imphal plain area" in the hills to the north and north-east of the plain, writes D. R. Mankekar, Associated Press of India war correspondent with the 14th Army.

In the north and north-east, many an odd hill or mountain feature penetrates the vast 700 square mile 'Imphal' plain vanishing amid the paddyfields several miles inside. It is from this direction that the enemy has been cautiously hopping forward from hill to hill and gingerly pawing into the plain proper. Most of the fighting north and north-east of Imphal mentioned in the last two weeks has been the struggle of the Japanese forces to creep forward through these hills and their valleys.

At certain points, the Jap forces are less than eight miles as the crow flies from the fringe of the Imphal town. At one point, the enemy is perched on a 5,000-feet high hill overlooking the plain only five miles from its foot. Elsewhere our troops and the enemy stare at each other across valley from two hilltops side by side.

HIDE-AND-SEEK GAME

The fighting in this area, comprising an arc between Manipur Road in the north and Ukhrul Road in the north-east, has been mostly a grim game of hide-and-seek—the Japs doing all the hiding and the Allies all the seeking, on hill features and in valleys between them. In these clashes we have inflicted very heavy casualties on the enemy.

The only other activity of importance reported in to-day's 'communique' is south-west of Imphal—the Bishenpore-Silchar Road area—where the fighting seems to be gradually developing as more Jap forces arrive in the south.

ALLIED WAR 'COMMUNIQUE'

During 13th April activity on the Arakan front was confined to patrolling, says to-day's Allied War 'communique'. There was some enemy mortar fire on the Maungdaw-Buthidaung road between the tunnels.

There was no important activity south or east of Imphal plain. Small enemy parties remain in the area of the Bishenpore-Silchar track.

In the Imphal plain area local actions continue in the hills to the north and north-east of the plain. Further reports confirm that enemy casualties have been heavy.

NO CHANGE IN KOHIMA AREA

There is no change in the Kohima area. The offensive operations against enemy road blocks near Kohima on the Kohima-Dimapur road are progressing.

Near Pumsin west of the Mogaung Valley, Chinese troops continuing their operations inflicted casualties on the retreating Japanese.

A successful patrol operation was carried out by troops of 38th Chinese Division in the main valley south of the Numna river. North of Tingring the Japanese suffered 47 killed when the Chinese attacked and captured a position.

In the Fort Hertz area, south of the Tiang river, our troops continue their operations against strong enemy positions.—A. P.

Japanese And Jungle Warfare

LONDON, April 15: The "Times" leading article on the Burma campaign said to-day: "The New Guinea and Guadalcanal campaigns have shown that hardy and frugal as the Japanese infantryman is, there are limits to his physical endurance, especially in jungle conditions.

The jungle provides no food and foraging in Imphal plain, and it will be a perilous affair for the invading forager. But the strong probability that the activity of Japanese roving detachments will diminish progressively does not make their destruction or expulsion any the less urgent. As long as they infest the Manipur region, they impose a heavy strain on Allied transport and supply services. This applies particularly to mainly American transport command which is concerned not only with supplying Chinese needs and those of the Wingate force, but is also supplying our force on the Kaladan river and in the central sector, as well as General Stilwell's troops far in the north."—Reuter.

Bombing Of Jap Positions In Pacific

LONDON, April 15.

The Allied Headquarters South-West Pacific communique to-day (Saturday), says "North-Eastern Sector, New Guinea, Wewak area: Our escorted heavy units at midday expended 250 tons of explosives on bivouac supply and defence areas at But and Dagua. Later, our attack planes swept coastal villages from Aitape to Wewak, dropping 31 tons and strafing from the minimum altitude.

City Women's Associations To Organise Relief

Madam Wadia Gives Ground Floor Of Her House And Rs. 1,000

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Members of the several women organisations of the city met at an urgently-called meeting at Vanita Vishram, Sandhurst Road, on Saturday evening to consider the situation arising out of the Dock Explosion Tragedy and the measures to be taken for the relief of its victims The meeting was convened under the auspices of the All-India Women's Conference and was presided over by Mrs. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya the President of the Conference.

The meeting decided to start relief work in a systematic and organised way, and for that purpose appointed a committee called the Bombay Women's Central Relief Committee with Mrs. Kamaladevi as its President, Mrs. Tarabai Premchand, Vice-President and Mrs. Paranjpye and Mrs. Sayani as secretaries.

It was revealed at the meeting that Madam Sophia Wadia had offered the ground floor of her residential quarters at Narayen Dabholkar Road to be used as a Relief Centre for the evacuees of the city. This Centre could accommodate about two hundred people and Madame Wadia had donated a sum of Rs. 1.000 to wards their maintenance. It was further revealed that at Chowpatty and Hirabag two more Centres were opened by Mrs. Jayshri Raiji for the relief of the tragedy victims.

The Central Committee appointed at the meeting included as its members the President and the Secretary of every women's organisation of the city. Those not connected with any such organisation and yet desiring to work were advised to enroll themselves as volunteers. The Committee was empowered to chalk out a programme of relief work to be started soon.

In the course of her opening remarks Mrs. Kamaladevi gave a brief resume of the tragedy that had shaken the city, and called upon every woman of the city to offer her services as a volunteer.

Lady Rama Rao addressing the meeting explained the nature of the relief work they had to start. There was in the first instance the need of immediate evacuation of those who were thrown out on the pavements.

Mrs. Manecklal Premchand appealed for co-ordinated and concerted action.

Relief Measures By Anjuman-i-Islam

Relief measures for those who were rendered homeless by the recent Explosions in the city were considered at a meeting of the managing committee of the Anjuman-i-Islam which came off at the premises of the Anjuman-i-Islam High School on Saturday afternoon. Mr. Faiz Tyebji presided. It was decided at the meeting to open relief centres at the premises of all the schools and other institutions run by the Anjuman. It was also decided to seek the help of rationing authorities for procuring food for the victims.

Call For Volunteers

Com. M. A. Wadud Khan, General Secretary, Bombay Students' Union, writes:—

Volunteers are immediately needed for helping to remove homeless families to certain wadis that have agreed to give them shelter. Volunteers are also required for distribution of food, water and salvage work. Those who cannot work the whole day can do so in shifts. All student volunteers should immediately come to the B. S. U. office, Neelum Manzil, 350, Lamington Road.

ARYA SAMAJ RELIEF TO EXPLOSION SUFFERERS

Under the auspices of the Arya Samaj, Fort, the Arya Veera Dal, Fort, have been rendering help to the destitute, who are suffering by the explosion.

Cremation work also is undertaken by the Samaj.

Inquiries can be made on Tel. No. 25375 or to the President, Arya Samaj, Bombay 4.

NATIONALIST STUDENTS ORGANISE RELIEF

The General Secretaries of the Nationalist Bombay Students' Union have issued the following statement:

Bombay Students' Union has sent its volunteers to every Relief Centre in the city, and we have opened 3 Relief Centres: (1) Hira Baug, C. P. Tank; (2) Krishna Nivas, Kolbhat Lane; (3) Suman House, Chowpatty Sea Face. Since last evening our workers are working for relief work day and night, and we are thinking of taking out students' procession to collect clothes and fund.

We appeal to the general public to contribute their mite for relief work forgetting their creed and colour and help our countrymen."

MARWADI SAMMELAN, BOMBAY, has started a relief centre at Vidya Bhawan, 2nd Fanaswadi, and is providing food and lodging to the destitutes affected by the fire that broke out in the city on Friday. All the needy persons are requested to come to Vidya Bhawan for shelter or phone us (phone Nos. 30648 and 28834) so that our lorry may be sent to the required place.

GERMAN SUPPLY LINES SMASHED

Patrol Engagements On Adriatic Front

From Reuter's Special Correspondent, Allied H. Q. in Italy April 15:

German long range guns, with a range of over 30 miles, are believed to be in action against General Mark Clark's troops in the Anzio beachhead. German activity on the upper Garigliano has been stepped up, but all attempts at infiltration into Allied lines have been frustrated.

Elsewhere on Italian fronts, routine patrol engagements and gun duels continued yesterday as usual with numerous brushes occurring inland on the Adriatic front. There were no changes in positions on either side. The Italian bridge busting campaign continued with several more important German supply lines north of Rome, smashed by Allied aircraft.

A heavy attack was made on Viterbo aerodrome 40 miles north-west of Rome, runways hangars and buildings being blown up.—Reuter.

Seven Security Prisoners Released

(From Our Correspondent)

AHMEDABAD, April 15

Seven security prisoners including Indravadan Thakore, Editor, "Gujarat Samachar" and Maganbhai Desai have been released unconditionally to-day from Nasik jail. They were arrested under D.I.R. No. 26 in 1942 and detained since.

Govt. Candidate Wins By-election

DERBY, April 15: Government candidate Labourite Mr. Harold Neal was to-day returned to Parliament at the Claycross by-election.

The vacancy was caused by the death of the Chairman of the Labour Party, Mr. George Ridley.—Reuter.

"DIL PAZIR" FETE

Mrs. Bapsey Sabavala writes:—

Owing to the tragic occurrence in the City. "The Dil Pazir Fete" will be closed till Friday the 21st, when it will re-open and be extended to Sunday the 23rd. There will be excellent programmes in the Dil Pazir Theatre all through.

Bombay Explosion And Sholapur Rumours

SHOLAPUR, April 15.

The District Magistrate has issued a press note announcing that the rumour of Japanese bombing in Bombay yesterday is totally false. An accidental explosion having no enemy bombing behind it occurred and caused dislocation of the G. I. P. hence the non-arrival of the Madras Mail this morning. Railway working resumed and a duplicate Mail is arriving late. No interruption in telegraphic and telephonic connection, says the press note.—United Press.

All-India Weather Chart

POONA, April 15.

Following is the weather chart showing the maximum and minimum temperatures and rainfall in inches recorded at eight hours on 11-4-44.

Allahabad 96 67 0; Bombay 91 73 0; Calcutta 98 71 0; Cawnpore 95 65 0; Cuttack 99 71 0; Darjeeling 55 43 0; Delhi 96 67 0; Dehra Dun 86 59 0; Jacobabad 105 72 0; Karachi 82 74 0; Lahore 93 66 0; Lucknow 96 64 0; Madras 92 77 0; Nagpur 103 67 0; Patna 95 67 0; Peshawar 88 62 T; Shillong 69 44 0.3; Simla 67 53 0—A. P.

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STOP PRESS

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RUSSIANS CAPTURE TARNOPOL

MOSCOW, April 15

Tarnopol has been captured, says M. Stalin's order of the day.—Reuter.

AIR ATTACKS ON BUCHAREST

LONDON, April 15: Reuter's Special Correspondent at the Allied Headquarters in Italy cables that heavy bombers in great strength attacked Bucharest and Ploesti to-day.—Reuter.

ART NOTES & COMMENTS

BY D G VYAS

National Education for India—Art and Music included—Wanted State Academies of dance and music—Corporation and Cultural Amenities—What about Prince of Wales Museum?—Stage In Iran and India.

From the cauldron of the apparently unending educational expatiations and experiments has, at last, emerged an exact and elaborate scheme in the report recently issued by the Central Advisory Board of Education on the post-war educational development in India. The report, which is based on the ingenious memorandum drafted by Mr. John Sargent, Educational Adviser to the Government of India, contemplates "to place India on an approximate level with other civilised communities." It envisages the new system to be universal, compulsory and free and claims the same to be national in spirit. Though the scheme exposes the failure of the existing system and promises to fulfil India's immediate and actual educational requirements, it will be judged by its practical achievements and not by postulates and promises.

Art In Education

Education, to be truly national, should be comprehensive in its scope and should, therefore, recognise training in art-appreciation as one of its main functions. The existing system has persistently eschewed art. The new system, as it appears from the report, embraces art. Art and music will "form an integral part of the curriculum" of the high schools—academic as well as technical. But in spite of it care will have to be exercised while inaugurating the new era that the cultural implications of education are not outweighed by the economic considerations. Art should be co-existent and co-extensive with every system of general education. What is needed in order to achieve this end is introduction of art in graded courses from the elementary stage—a procedure which is calculated to liquidate the aesthetic poverty of the country and thereby, to contribute, to no small extent, to its economic prosperity.

Since the report does not define the position of art in the University education, it gives ground for apprehension that art will continue to be a subject of "special favour" by the universities in the new order. Academic education in the civilised countries, on whose approximate level India is designed by the Central Advisory Board to take her place, embraces art; why should the same not do so in India? Continuation of art and music from the high schools to colleges as an integral part of academic education is of paramount necessity. Fine arts should also be included in academic courses as subjects of special studies and researches.

And Music Teachers?

The process of diversion of students from the primary stage to the senior basic and high schools will be governed by the principle of their individual aptitudes, abilities and general promise. It is an educational reform which is long overdue and will save many a student from the drudgery of the careers for which they are not intended. Prospective artists will, no doubt, find their way to the art-schools and the latter, in their turn, will produce artists of abilities and promise. But the difficulty will arise in the case of students who have aptitude for music, dance and histrionics. Where will they be diverted to?

The protagonists of the scheme of national education have made no recommendations on the crucial issue of education in music, dance, dramatics and cine-art. There are no institutions for training in theatrical art, but they are indispensable to the revival of the stage. Training in music and dance is, at present, mainly left to private enterprize and is consequently not exempt from the evils of amateurism and charlatanism. Arts like music, dance, dramatics and film must be recognised as the subjects of special studies and must be included in the programme of national education. Educationally advanced India ought to be aesthetically alert, and as such she will demand talented and systematically trained musicians, dancers and stage and cine-artistes. Is it not an obligation of the State to establish, conduct and control academies of arts to recruit them?

A great, but by no means undue emphasis is laid on the qualifications of teachers for the new schools. The protagonists of the scheme have made definite proposals to train them, but they are obviously oblivious to the necessity of recruiting music and dance teachers. Art-teachers will be found with no difficulty as the much needed successors of the drawing teachers of the present schools, but how will the educational authorities be able to dig out music-teachers overnight? The report is silent on this important point. Academies for training in the classical music and dance are of urgent necessity from the point of view of the supply of music and dance teachers. They should be established before the new scheme is inaugurated and the accredited traditional exponents should be appointed on their staff.

Standards Of Art

Artistic regeneration of India should be one of the aims of national education, but the same will not be achieved by mere introduction of art and music in the curriculum of the schools. Dance, dramatics and also music will, according to the report, play an important role, as extra-curricular activities, in the different stages and forms of education, but in the absence of emphasis on the classical traditions "light music" and "dance-nonscript"—the dance-modern will succeed in crushing the classical arts of India. It is, therefore, essential that the standards of music and dance should be higher—classical—and the travesties should be vigilantly kept away from the precincts of the educational institutions. The objective should be to develop in students the sense of discrimination and appreciation of the classical traditions and not to multiply the race of the devotees of eclecticism and modernism—the arch-enemies of the Indian Arts.

It is gratifying to note that the construction of the school buildings which is an aspect of national education, has not escaped the notice of the authors of the report. The chief aim of the programme of the buildings should be efficiency and not "save-a-penny" economy. The environments in which the students should spend the best hours of the day should be artistic. They should learn art and live in the atmosphere of art. Schools should be temples of art and education. The first and foremost among the artistic environments is the architectural design of the school-buildings and the architecture of the new schools should be Indian and not the second edition of that of the Marine Drive monstrosities. Precisely stated, national education should be imparted in the schools whose design is national and not exotic. The equipment should include mural and sculptural decorations and also theatres wherever possible.

Employment To Artists

The references, like "technical education, if it is to be truly fertile, should include the study of design" and "the industrial product of today to command a market ..., must be attractive to the purchaser" leave an impression that the protagonists of the scheme are alive to the values of industrial designing. But how and by whom the designs should be handled is a point which ought to engage the attention of the authorities in charge of technical education. Scientific research is conducted by the scientists in research laboratories. Design, which is a problem of research in art, should likewise be handled by the creative artists in special design-research institutes. India claims a rich and resourceful fund of industrial designs which are original and distinctive and which should consistently form the basis of researches. The future industrial products ought to vindicate India's individuality as a great art-producing country.

The establishment of the Employment Bureau is a welcome suggestion, as it aims at creating a machinery to tackle the problem of unemployment in the educated section of society. Such bureaux should not be reserved as the clearing houses for the technicians, commercial and industrial designers and graduates. Artists like mural decorators, sculptors, musicians and dancers are almost without allocation in the existing social order. It will not be undue optimism to expect the system of national education to create a demand for them. The employment bureaux should treat such artists on par with other specialists and should function as negotiating agencies for them.

"First" Is "Last"

"The cultural needs are too often ignored in catering to the daily needs of the mere man. Municipal art-galleries, theatres, an orchestra, a broadcasting house are equally indispensable", observed Mrs. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya in her reply to the speech of Mr. M. R. Masani—the Mayor of Bombay—at a reception accorded to her and to the members of the Standing Committee of the All-India Women's Conference by the Corporation on April 5. The passage brought to the notice of the Corporation an important aspect of civic administration, but it is not likely to appeal to the people for whom it was intended and to whom art is a pet aversion. It is surprising that the Corporation of Bombay should, in the twentieth century, need the conviction that the artistic and cultural amenities are essential to civic life and are better investments than the costly places of public convenience.

Mrs. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya should be told that the Corporation did pass on 8th December 1938, a resolution regarding a Municipal theatre and Public Hall to be located in the heart of the city. The resolution is probably lying in the frigidaire of the Municipal executive, and no corporator or responsible official has, so far, uttered a word about it. The Municipality of Bombay has, as pointed by Mrs. Chattopadhyaya, "the necessary resources," but contrary to her belief not the "outlook" to carry out especially her suggestion regarding the artistic and cultural amenities. The Corporation is "the first" in other respects but it will be "last" in supplying the cultural needs of the ratepayers.

Prince Of Wales Museum

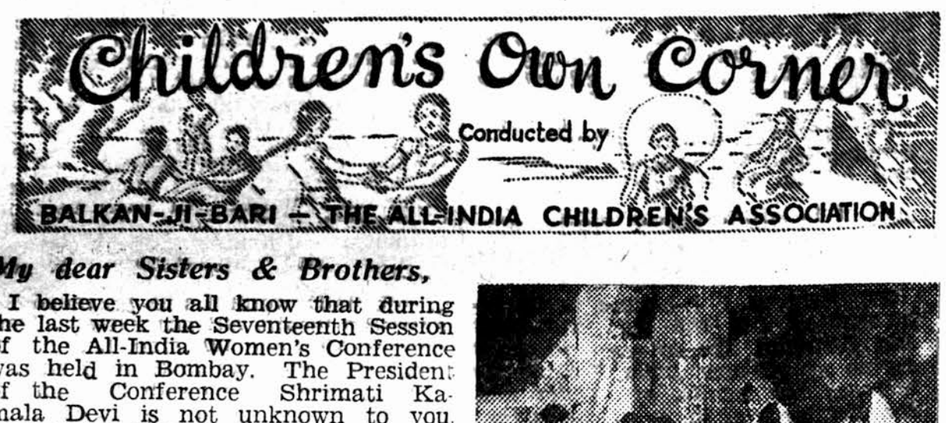
Mr. I. H. Taunton, Adviser to the Governor of Bombay (Education), referred, in his speech at a social function organised by the Headmasters' Association of Bombay at the St. Xavier's High School on March 4, to the intended plan of the Red Cross Society occupying a portion of the ground floor of the Prince of Wales Museum. He is reported to have declared himself to be in full agreement with the Association as regards the educational value of the Museum, but he did not think that the whole museum would be closed. Will the Government of Bombay declare the proposals of the Red Cross Society regarding the museum and also their own attitude towards the same?

The exigencies of the war have curtailed in India the utility of the museums which are slowly finding their legitimate place in the sphere of education. The Prince of Wales Museum of Bombay which is no exception to them is probably asked to make additional sacrifices in order to accommodate the Red Cross Society. The Government ought to make necessary arrangements for the society elsewhere and ought to leave the museum to continue its educational functions with its war-time depleted strength. Museums and educational institutions should not appear on the list of the casualties of the war.

In Iran And India

While speaking at the Journalists' Association of India H. E. Ali Asghar Hikmat—the leader of the Iranian Cultural Mission—referred to the cultural trends of his country which include the establishment of the modern theatres, translations of the French, English and other European dramas and adaptation and dramatisation of Iran's lyrics and classics. Obviously Iran is fully convinced that the theatre is one of the essentials of cultured life. What impressions did the mission carry with it regarding the stage in this country?

Modern Iran is building her own theatre. Modern India is complacently watching the slow extinction of her theatrical art. The unhappy contrast between the two countries has been made clearer by the visit of the Iranian Cultural Mission. India has distinctive traditions of the stage. She has compiled original treatises on dramaturgy and claims to her credit a rich and varied repertoire of the classical dramas; but she has lost the urge to retain and develop the stage as a national institution. The plight of the stage should be attributed, in no small degree, to the do-nothing policy of the State.



My dear Sisters & Brothers,

I believe you all know that during the last week the Seventeenth Session of the All-India Women's Conference was held in Bombay. The President of the Conference Shrimati Kamala Devi is not unknown to you and I think Balkan-ji-Bari—The All-India Children's Association should not be a new thing to her. As a matter of that, she presided over one of the huge children's gatherings organised under its auspices at Karachi in 1931.

Shrimati Kamala Devi was reminded of the above fact in a letter addressed to her by our Association, offering a cordial welcome to her and to the members of the Standing Committee of the All-India Women's Conference on their visit to this place, the present headquarters of our Association. She was explained that the Balkan-ji-Bari stood for the children's cause and worked in the faith that it will bring about real happiness amongst mankind, and that towards that end it was making its humble efforts.

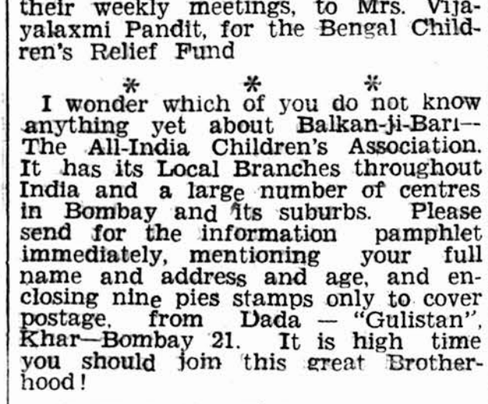
* * *

During the All-India Women's Conference, an address was presented to Shrimati Sarojini Naidu. The address, couched in Hindustani, was read out by Shrimati Kamala Devi, eulogising her great services to literature and political life of the country. In her personal life, stated the address, she had drawn Hindus and Muslims together and placed the ideal of unity before the country, for which they should cherish a regard for her. Balkan-ji-Bari, it goes without saying, stands and has been endeavouring to work for that unity.

It would be interesting to recall here certain incidents showing Shrimati Sarojini Naidu's interest in the Balkan-ji-Bari. Dada somehow met her in 1934 at the Taj Mahal Hotel where she stayed at that time. And immediately she asked him if we were not having a children's gathering at Bombay then like the one we had at Karachi in 1931. Dada was himself a new arrival in Bombay, and of course the children's gathering was not held in that year, but in 1937, as you will all remember.

* * *

Shrimati Sarojini Naidu took Dada with herself to many a friend of hers, introducing to them the Balkan-ji-Bari. And with her blessings and sympathies of so many friends, the Association by now has spread towards almost all parts of India. When she was requested to contribute her poems to "PUSHPA—The Children's Own Paper," she had expressed her inability to write any new ones for it; but she readily gave permission to reproduce any of her old poems—And occasionally, as you are aware, they have been adorning our journal.



AT PLAY

At the address mentioned above, over one hundred women and children's organisations paid floral tributes to Shrimati Sarojini Naidu, and also presented her with a purse "as a token of their love and admiration for the revered leader." On this occasion Lady Manijeh R. Masani presented her with a nice khaddar-flower garland on behalf of the Balkan-ji-Bari. She also handed over a cheque for Rs. 383-4-0, collected by the boys and girls of our Association through "PUSHPA" and this "Corner" and at their weekly meetings, to Mrs. Vijayalaxmi Pandit, for the Bengal Children's Relief Fund

* * *

I wonder which of you do not know anything yet about Balkan-ji-Bari—The All-India Children's Association. It has its Local Branches throughout India and a large number of centres in Bombay and its suburbs. Please send for the information pamphlet immediately, mentioning your full name and address and age, and enclosing nine pies stamps only to cover postage, from Dada — "Gulistan", Khar—Bombay 21. It is high time you should join this great Brotherhood!

"PUSHPA—The Children's Own Paper" for the month of April is not only the usual spring special issue but also the Centenary Number. It is full of interesting reading matter and beautiful pictures. The issue will be ready next week, and those of you who are not its permanent subscribers may send for the copy, enclosing six annas stamps, to the Manager, "PUSHPA", 31, Tribhovan Road, Bombay 4. If you do not reserve your copies in advance, you may have to be disappointed!

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"GULISTAN", KHAR—BOMBAY 21.

AT WORK

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The LAST PAGE

Conducted by CHRONICLER

Good morning, everybody!

This is All-India Radio radiating simultaneously from all stations.

There has been a slight change in our schedule. The discussion on "Can Unemployment Be Uprooted?" in the "India Tomorrow" series that was to be broadcast tomorrow night has been substituted by a special programme this morning in which we expect to present some interesting personalities.

This is, indeed, a very special programme because it is for the first time in the history of broadcasting that a 'field broadcast' has been arranged from a jail—in fact this broadcast has been made possible by a hook-up between two jails, one in Ahmednagar and the other in Poona.

The persons taking part in the programme this morning are, of course, not so distinguished as the 44 prominent men and women—Knights, Ladies, Professors, Doctors, Colonels, Dewan Bahadurs and Society Beauties—who are taking part in our usual broadcasts in this series, but we are giving these prisoners a chance to have their say on the air because in the opinion of some our misguided listeners, they will have a lot to do with shaping the India of tomorrow.

And so, here we go, over to Poona!

★

Good morning, Mister Gandhi. How's your gout—I mean your goat? It is not your day of silence', I hope! Now we know you do not like new-fangled devices like the radio. You told over ex-Controller you could not promote a satanic instrument that might one day be used against you. I appreciate your reasons. But, after 20 months of isolation, surely you would not mind speaking to your countrymen—let them hear your words, your voice!

We have been broadcasting a series of discussions on different aspects of "India Tomorrow". I believe you have some original ideas on the subject, even more original than the 44 distinguished men and women we have caught in our radio-net.

Now, to begin with, let me ask you: Don't you think the India of tomorrow would be based on stable foundations only if the advance towards freedom is slow and steady?

GANDHI: There is no such thing as slow freedom. Freedom is like a birth. Till we are fully free we are slaves. All birth takes place in a moment.

Thank you, thank you! Do mind coming a little nearer the microphone. Your voice is so soft and weak, you know.

Now, from your answer to my first question I presume that you would define "India Tomorrow" as free India. How would you describe in concrete terms your vision of free India—or 'Swaraj' as you always choose to call it?

GANDHI: "By 'Swaraj' I mean the Government of India by the consent of the people as ascertained by the largest number of the adult population, male or female, native born or domiciled, who have contributed by manual labour to the service of the State and who have taken the trouble of having their names registered as voters."

But, don't you think such a Government would be merely the rule of the majority communi or Hindu rule, as the Muslims fear?

GANDHI: "There could be no greater mistake than that. If it were to be true, I for one would refuse to call it 'Swaraj' and would fight it with all the strength at my command, for to me 'Hind Swaraj' is the rule of all people, is the rule of justice. The 'Swaraj' of my—our—dream recognizes no race of religious distinctions."

Now, let us suppose, the British Government does agree to give 'Swaraj' .....

GANDHI (interrupting): "I have had the hardihood to say that 'Swaraj' could not be granted even by God. We would have to earn it ourselves. Swaraj can never be a free gift of one nation to another. It is a treasure to be purchased with a nation's best blood."

Let me put it this way: After Swaraj or freedom from foreign rule is achieved, do you think all the problems of India will be solved?

GANDHI: "No. Swaraj for me means freedom for the meanest of our countrymen. I am not interested in freeing India merely from the English yoke. I am bent upon freeing India from any yoke whatever. I have no desire to exchange "King log for King Stork."

Are you by any chance advocating socialism—or, may be, Communism?

GANDHI: "What does communism mean in the last analysis? It means a classless society—an ideal worth striving for. I only part company with it when force is called to aid for achieving it. The idea of of inequality, of 'high and low' is an evil, but I do not believe in eradicating evil from the human breast at the point of the bayonet."

We seem to be drifting from the realm of economics to the realm of ethics.

GANDHI: "I must confess I do not draw a sharp or any distinction between economics and ethics. Economics that hurt the moral well-being of an individual or a nation are immoral and, therefore, sinful. Thus the economics that permit one country to prey upon another are immoral."

What then in your opinion should be the proper basis of economic society in the India of tomorrow?

GANDHI: "We want to organize our national power. This can be done not by adopting the best methods of production only but by the best methods of 'both' the production and the distribution."

Does that mean you believe in equal distribution

GANDHI: "My ideal is equal distribution, but so far as I can see, it is not to be realised. I, therefore, work for equitable distribution. According to me the economic constitution of India and, for the matter of that, the world should be such that no one under it should suffer from want of food and clothing. In other words, everybody should be able to get sufficient work to enable him to make the two ends meet. And this ideal can be universally realized only if the means of production of the elementary necessaries of life remain in the control of the masses. These should be freely available to all as God's air...."

You don't mean AIR by any chance, do you? Anyway, thank you so much Mister Gandhi—you know we are not allowed to call you 'Mahatma' Gandhi!—I will now be taking your leave.

★

And, now, over to Ahmednagar!

Good morning, Mr. Nehru. I am sure you don't dislike the radio as Mr. Gandhi does. Why, I remember you were scheduled to broadcast to America on the very morning you were arrested. Well, here is your chance to make good that lost opportunity after 20 months. Can you sum up briefly the basis on which you would like to raise the structure of future India?

NEHRU: "In India the outstanding fact is the appalling poverty and misery of the people and the vast and growing dimensions of unemployment. There can be no substantial relief from this under imperialism and so perforce we must have independence. The primary issue becomes one of political freedom, though this is intimately allied to social, and only if this alliance is understood can effective advance be made and the right stress laid."

Would you then vote for a socialist basis of society.

NEHRU: "Yes. I believe that through socialism alone can we solve our economic problems, but socialism can only function when India is politically free."

Am I to understand that you are a Marxian socialist and not a "Gandhian socialist" as you have been sometimes represented?

NEHRU: "The socialist approach is the approach of Marxism. It is a way of looking at past and present history. The greatness of Marx none will deny to-day..... Much is made of the fact that Marx emphasized the economic side of life only. He did emphasize it because it is important and because there was a tendency to ignore it. But he never ignored the other forces which have moved human beings and shaped events."

Thank you, Mr. Nehru, for your brilliant exposition. One more question. Since you were sent away to prison, there has been a lot of talk in the country about planning. Everyone has a plan these days. Some suspect that it was you who started the vogue with your National Planning Committee. What do you think of economic planning and do you think it is possible under existing conditions?

NEHRU: "I believe that without planning little that is worthwhile can be done. But can this be done under present conditions, both political and social? At every step vested interests prevent planning and ordered development, and all our energy and enthusiasm is wasted because of this obstruction. Can we plan on a limited scale for limited objectives? We may do so in some measure, but immediately we come up against new problems and our plans go awry. Life is one organic whole and it cannot be separated into watertight compartments. And so we are driven to think of basic conditions of human life, of the social system, the economic structure."

You refer to "vested interests." Do you imply that the presence of capitalism and capitalists is a hindrance to proper planning of the nation's economy?

NEHRU: "It seems clear enough that the capitalist system of industry, whatever its services in the past may have been, is no longer suited to the present methods of production. Technical advance has gone far ahead of the existing social structure.....It is not a question of blaming capitalism or cursing capitalists and the like. Capitalism has been of the greatest service to the world and individual capitalists are but tiny wheels in the big machine. The question now is whether the capitalist system has not outlived its day and must now give place to a better and saner ordering of human affairs, which is more in keeping with the progress of science and human knowledge."

Am I to understand that you are for the whole-sale industrialisation of the country?

NEHRU: "Yes. I believe in industrialisation and the big machines and I should like to see factories spring up all over India. I want to increase the wealth of India and the standards of living of the Indian people and it seems to me that this can only be done by the application of science to industry resulting in large-scale industrialisation. Quite apart from my own desires, I think that present day conditions are bound to result in the progressive industrialization of the country. And yet I support hand-spinning and khaddar under existing conditions in India. For me this has today an economic, a political and a social value.....

"At the same time it is equally true that it is an out-of-date form of production and it will not be possible, through it, to increase the wealth of the country greatly or raise the standard of living of the masses. Therefore, I think the big machine must come and I am sure khaddar will not prevent its coming."

Can one say, then, that you would like to build the structure of the India of to-morrow on the foundations of socialism and industrialisation, while eliminating both imperialism and capitalism?

*NEHRU: "Yes. I do believe that natural laws will speedily put an end to the British Empire and imperialism and capitalism and I wish to help in the process."**

Thank you, Mr. Nehru. But we of the All-India Radio are not allowed to help you in that process. And so, I am sure, you will appreciate the reasons why what you have said this morning has not been broadcast to the listeners. We will revert to our original programme in the "India Tomorrow" series according to which, SIR Raghunath P. Paranjpye, Dr. John Matthai of TATAS, COLONEL S. S. Sokhey, and PROFESSOR Choksi will discuss: "Can unemployment be uprooted?" We promise our listeners, as usual, a very entertaining discussion which has already been recorded—*and Censored!*

★

Two Women And One Cause

Two unusually talented young women are combining to give us a rare feast of dance art and to collect funds for a worthy cause—relief of the starving and epidemic-stricken people of Malabar whose plight is almost as heart-rending as the recent Bengal tragedy.

NANDITA
As she appears in "Kovalan".

Mrinalini Sarabhai, charming daughter of the well-known Swaminathan family of Malabar, and daughter-in-law of Gujerat, who was educated in Europe and America but later re-educated in India's traditional culture and arts in her own homeland, battle-scarred in the freedom movement, is making a keenly-awaited debut on the dance stage after years of painstaking study and practice. Nandita Kriplani, granddaughter of the poet Tagore, a product of Shantiniketan and counted among the most talented artists to come out of that home of art, is regarded as one of the very best Bengali dancers.

In addition to these two, other dancers who will take part in the dance-drama "KOVALAN" are Shankar and Panikar, both from Malabar, and both talented artists. It is appropriate that this unusual combination should choose to stage a dance-drama in which the various dance techniques—Bharat Natya, Kathakali and Manipuri—will all be represented, not mixed up in a terpischorean jumble, but each used for a separate dance piece to suit the dramatic demands of different scenes, with appropriate musical score.

The dance-drama will be staged at Framji Cowasji Institute (Old Wellington Cinema) on 17th and 18th (at 6-30 p.m.) and 19th (9-30 p.m.).

The dance enthusiasts of Bombay cannot blame this department if they miss this show.

★

Bad Friday

Friday the 7th April was Good Friday. Friday the 14th proved to be Bad Friday for Bombay. Time alone will reveal exactly how bad—the true extent of the full damage to life and property. But we can already assess the damage to the morale and self-respect of the city.

The explosions in the docks gave us a foretaste of the Blitz. But did we face the situation with composure and courage? Frankly most of us didn't. We believed the most fantastic rumours, we ran out of our offices and shops, we succumbed to panic.

Yet there were shining examples of courageous devotion to duty, even heroism. The buses, the trams, the trains continued to run—and they were run by Indians and by civilians! Except for a brief interruption, the work in the factories went on—and the workers were all Indians! To them all goes as much credit as to the American, British and Indian Defence personnel who rushed to the scene of tragedy and worked through the night to rush the wounded to hospitals and to empty the endangered buildings.

At a moment of crisis like this, the one thought that hammers at one's mind is this: When a country is faced with the reality of invasion, with the danger of air raids and bombardment, we need a NATIONAL GOVERNMENT very urgently. The people's own trusted leaders can mobilise them to face danger with fortitude as the Soviets fought for Stalingrad under the leadership of Stalin, as the British stood the Blitz under the leadership of Churchill. A NATIONAL GOVERNMENT is no longer a political demand, it is an urgent military necessity.

We must have a National Government to face all such situations—whether accidental (as in Bombay) or enemy—inflicted as on the Imphal front.

But, meanwhile, let us not succumb to panic, let us not start or give currency to childish rumours as many of us did on Friday. IT MUST NOT HAPPEN AGAIN! We owe it to our personal, civic and national self-respect to make this resolve.

***All remarks ascribed to Gandhiji and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru are quoted from their published writings.**

NIGHT AT THE KREMLIN

Stalin Plays The Host At Magnificent Banquet

By KSAWERY PRUSZYNSKI

(Concluded From The Last Issue)

Habitues of international banquets would certainly not think the dinner at the Kremlin dull or monotonous. Among the servants I recognised some of the waiters from the 'Moskva' Hotel. Of course it is not a hotel, in the accepted meaning of that term, but rather a special government hospitality house, reserved for a few people. They wore no livery, only white stewards' jackets. Some of them spoke French.

I learnt later that the Kremlin has no team of its own footmen, but borrows some from the official hotel when they are needed for a big reception. There was something else that suggested that the profession of valet had no bright future in the country; each of us had his own 'zakaski', and his own beverages. It meant that the 'help yourself' principle was not unknown to Kremlin banquets. As a compromise in favour of Western methods, the same "zakaski" and drinks were also served by the men in the white jackets! Thus there were two ways of obtaining the various salads, and the famous Russian fish—the salmon, "bieluga", "siomga," and, of course, caviare of all possible colours, and of the best quality. They were washed down with Russian brandy, bitter "zubrovka" vodka, Moscow vodka, and, best of all—"riabinovka", the red vodka!

Versailles Without Frailty

It was the best moment for looking round the room, before the speeches, between one helping of caviare and the next. The room in which we sat, the old St. Catherine's hall, belonged to the Frenchified, luxurious part of the Bolshoy Dvoriec. It had a rich rococo ceiling of gold and plaster; its walls were covered with slightly faded strawberry-coloured fabric. Each of the walls was adorned at the top with an oval medallion, with a mauve ribbon bearing the Russian words, "Ya linbov k'otieczestvu"—'For Love of Country'! I guessed that it was the hall of the Order of St. Catherine, instituted by the Empress as a decoration for distinguished ladies of the court. The dull red and gold pleasantly reflected the light, which gleamed on the splendid parquet floor, and streamed past the thick green columns. Then it vanished in the depths of countless rooms, in a reddish twilight.

It was a Versailles that lacked the superb frailness and lightness of French art. Just as Potsdam and Sans Souci, though French in design, are stamped with Prussian gloom and stiffness, so this piece of France dragged into the heart of old Russia by a German princess seemed to be totally un-French. It was like a French gown, cut not in the light silk of Lyons, but in the thick Oriental brocade of the pontifical robes of Orthodox bishops, and of the hieratic costumes of the fat boyars of old Moscow. It was gorgeous, impressive, magnificent; it was heavy, pompous, and menacing. Everything had been done to make it a Versailles, but it was still the Kremlin. The gargantuan masses of food filling the table, and carried by the servants, completed the picture. The Caucasian and Crimean wines, the brandies and liqueurs from the Persian border had a flavour of their own. In the dishes with French names, one felt the background of traditional Russian cooking: rich, spicy and nourishing. Courses followed each other quickly, or rather came simultaneously. The dinner proper started with a choice of two soups of an excellent Polish "borshch," which is clear and thin (unlike the Russian variety), and a Russian fish soup, known as "shchi." My gastronomic patriotism left me no choice.

Countless Toasts

After the soups there came meats, poultry, fish and game, in a tremendous variety. The first bottles were replaced with new ones, and the glasses filled again and again. Conversation became louder, freely assisted by gesture, and mostly terminated by guffaws of laughter. The Polish and Russian officers seemed to be the first to come to a mutual understanding. The hall of St. Catherine saw more life than it had probably done for a long time.

I remember few of the countless toasts which followed during the second part of the banquet. They seemed episodes lost in the rich, luscious picture of that strange feast, in which proletarian simplicity was mixed with shadows cast by a dead Empire, which was held somewhere between Europe and Asia. Molotov was the universal speaker. He was tireless in toasting every one of the Polish guests in turn. The last of his toasts in that series was in honour of the young generation of Polish officers. Molotov very cautiously addressed it to the only Polish junior officer present, Captain Klinkowski, A.D.C. to General Anders. 'The unexpectedly-honoured hero was a typical cavalry officer, and he was stunned when he heard his name as an official toast. He might well be! A few months earlier he had been a political prisoner of the Soviet in the Lubianka gaol; now he was in the same city of Moscow, but at the Kremlin, sitting in full uniform at the same table with the rulers of Soviet Russia and Polish ministers, toasted by the Premier of Russia, Molotov. Rather too much for a gallant cavalry subaltern! The end of the toast embarrassed the Captain even more, Molotov lifted his glass towards him, which meant, according to the local custom, that Klinkowski should touch the Prime Minister's glass with his own. He was at least a dozen paces away from him, so that he had to get up and walk along the room. Klinkowski had just started his ceremonial march, when he was faced with a new problem. Stalin had risen from his seat, and made a few steps towards Klinkowski. That was the limit! Stalin happened to be on the opposite side of the table, so that Klinkowski was in a dilemma. Should he carry on his march towards Molotov, or should he turn back to Stalin? He decided on the latter course, and I saw the brave Captain walk along the slippery, lustrous floor towards Stalin, and touch his glass with his own, carefully, perhaps even shyly. Then he started a new journey around the table in his cavalry boots, which did not strike anyone there as odd at dinner, marching towards Molotov, to perform the ritual again. After that our friend was allowed at last to return to his seat, which he did, probably with considerable relief.

The Climax

The climax of the evening was, of course, Stalin's speech. His way of speaking was as unconventional as himself. Stalin is a peculiar speaker, with a method of his own. He asked questions, and proceeded to reply to them; he used picturesque examples and anecdotes. He talked like a teacher, who partly instructs his class and partly hints at certain conclusions. He dealt with the relations between Poland and Russia. There were—he said—many quarrels, conflicts and mutual claims. There was a time when the Poles held Moscow; then the Russians took Warsaw.....

'Well' — interjected Ambassador Kot, who as an historian knows the story of the Polish occupation of Moscow, which lasted less than two years, in the seventeenth century—'the Poles only stayed in Moscow for a few months. But the Russians held Poland for over a hundred years! Why did you stay with us so long?'

Then Stalin passed to two topics for which he is said to have a sentimental weakness: his revolutionary youth, and Lenin. The Russians, he said, did not appreciate the sensitiveness of the Poles, a nation persecuted by the Imperial Russian government, which therefore learned to hate everything Russian. 'I did not understand it myself', said Stalin, 'but Lenin did.' Then he told us a story, to which everybody listened in absolute silence, as they did throughout the speech.

'The Poles helped me to cross the frontier between Russian and Austrian Poland, some years before 1914. I was visiting Lenin, who was hiding in Southern Poland. He understood the Poles. I didn't. Once, when I was travelling Galicia, the train stopped at the station about lunch time. I was hungry, and I had a quarter of an hour's time, so I went to the restaurant and ordered luncheon. I sat down and waited. My neighbour on the right hand side was served, the one on the left too, but I was not. Even people who came much later got their meal, but I did not! It was obviously intentional. Finally, two minutes before the train was due to leave, they brought me a plate of soup. I am a hot-tempered Georgian. I threw two Austrian crowns on the table, and turned the plate of soup upside down. Then I walked out, still hungry. In Zakopane I told Lenin about this incident, abusing the Poles.

'Lenin,' continued Stalin, 'heard my story and then asked:

"In what language did you talk to them?"

"In what language? Why in Russian, of course."

'Then Lenin began to laugh, and laughed at me for a long time: "You don't understand these things. Don't you see that, after all that they suffered from the Russian government, the Poles must hate the Russian language? Like every oppressed nation, they have just cause for their resentment. That is why you were served last."

'I understood,' Stalin concluded his toast, 'Lenin's lesson of knowledge of other nations' susceptibilities, and of respect for them. That is why I drink this toast to General Sikorski and his party, our guests, to their prosperity, to the honour of the famous Polish army, and the liberation of Poland from enemy hands. Poland will rise after this war greater than ever.'

After The Banquet

It was the end of the banquet. The desert, according to Russian custom, was served in the next room: a large red drawing-room furnished in Louis Philippe style. The two-headed Imperial eagle was still spreading its black wings over the gilded doors between the two rooms. The Polish and Soviet diplomats were just having a trifling discussion about the wording of the Polish-Soviet declaration which was to be signed the declaration was not strictly speaking, an international treaty at all; merely a vague expression of an improvement of relations between the two countries. Nevertheless, the formalists on both sides insisted on some purely literary details. I had to take the matter up with Molotov. After listening to both sides of the case, he said in a train of reminiscence.

'Ah, when we were signing here the pact with the Germans.....' He meant, of course, the famous Stalin-Ribbentrop pact, signed at the Kremlin on 26 August, 1939—the pact of partition of Poland, which opened Hitler's way into Europe. Not a particularly pleasant reminder! 'Don't you think, Mr. People's Commissar that the Soviet-German Agreement was not among the more fortunate treaties concluded by the Soviet governments?

Molotov, who obviously had made his remark without ulterior motive, without realising how delicate the subject was, protested his good intentions.

'And besides,' I added, 'we hope that our present agreement may be more lasting than those signed by Mr. Ribentrop.....'

The literary trifle was dealt with, just in time, for all were rising from their seats. We went into the dark pit of the endless rooms of the Bolshoy Dvoriec, from which the party of the Polit-bureau had emerged a few hours before, to meet us in St. Catherine's hall.

The Revolution has never passed there. Old Louis XVI furniture, dark Dutch paintings, dimmed Venetian mirrors in gilt frames—all languished in the boredom of forgetfulness. It was another of the great country mansions, erected at enormous expense, and then abandoned by new generations of heirs, who preferred less antique and glamorous houses. A hundred years before the October Revolution, the Bolshoy Dvoriec was left by the Court in favour of the palaces of St. Petersburg. The Revolution brought the capital back to Moscow; but it did not return the Bolshoy to the glory of the first Romanovs. The Imperial furniture was still there; only the silent agents of the N.K.D.W., fully armed, hovering in the background of the great dim rooms, represented the New Power.

Stalin's Private Cinema

Simplicity was certainly not the keynote of Russian architecture. After passing through countless rooms, we went along strange corridors, stairs and passages, with unexpected turnings and concealed doors—probably much older than the Versailles part of the palace, perhaps dating from the time of the old Moscow of the boyars, before Peter the Great. It was a labyrinth as mysterious as that of the Minotaur, and hardly less sinister.

Then we returned to modernity. There was a small projection room with a white screen and deep, soft armchairs. Stalin sat down, together with Sikorski; Kot with Molotov; and others occupied the remaining seats. Servants brought cigars, coffee and sweets. Stalin and Sikorski talked over a small piece of white board—it was no map and no draft treaty, but the programme of the show. The lights went out, and we saw on the screen news reel of the recent October parade in Moscow, of Stalin's speeches, and then of Sikorski's arrival in Russia, of his welcome in Kuibishev, in Moscow.....

The Bolsheviks, with their usual ambition of emulating the tempo of America, produced shots of the most recent events, taking us up almost to dinner itself, practically to the very moment when we entered the cinema room. The Kremlin has little to learn from Hollywood. It even surpassed it in sound effects for as we sat down in silence watching the show, we distinctly heard a distant booming rumble—Uhuuu.....Uhuuuu

The din and noise of the banqueting room were over, and we heard the thunder well. After three years of practice, we had no difficulty in recognising it. We looked at each other and the show went on. After all, the front was not more than fifteen miles away. The Germans had pushed particularly far on that day on the Moscow sector. Heavy guns were at work somewhere in the night, and their roar shook the thick walls of the Kremlin, and penetrated into the private cinema of Stalin.

Midnight

It was nearly twelve when we rose from our seats, and began the return journey to the main entrance, through the old rooms, even more dead and somnolent than before. The table in St. Catherine's hall had already been cleared, and the life which had filled the room for a while with the noise of feasting and the smell of food was gone, leaving it as dead as the rest of the palace. Only the lights in the entrance hall were still as bright as before, and the proximity of the entrance was heralded by the increasing number of armed, silent and motionless figures along our route.

The night was no longer as dark as before. The full moon hung high up in the sky the view of the river Moskva in its bed of granite; of the sleeping, deserted city, and of streets white under snow, was eerie and fantastic as ever. We had to pass, in order to assist at the signature of the Polish-Soviet declaration, to another of the Kremlin palaces, which housed Stalin's private office. It was too near to use the cars. I liked the walk through the Kremlin courtyards, deep and black like canons, between many churches, chapels and monasteries. All these temples were closed, and obviously disused, or perhaps turned into museums. Seen at a distance, with their pearl-like domes of various sizes and shapes, they gave to the Kremlin the appearance of a vision in a town of a Thousand and One Nights. At close quarters, they were more real and impressive, but not less fantastic. There was something grim and sinister, majestic and melancholy, about that castle sanctuary of a religion doomed to death, in the holy city condemned to silence. In the moonlight, on gleaming snow, under a jet black sky, the Kremlin of the monasteries looked like the legendary city submerged by a magician's curse, only to show from time to time the tops of its towers, deep under the water of a black, magic lake. It was no longer the Kremlin of the Soviet parliament and of Stalin. It was not the Kremlin of the great Catharine and of French courtiers. Nor even the old Kremlin of the boyars of Moscow and dark labyrinths. It was a hieratic, mysterious town, a holy city like Lhasa, Mecca, or the dead cities of pagodas and temples in Indo-China. It recovered all its greatness of the home of a creed, perhaps enriched by the torment of history, mysterious and aloof in the starlit frosty night.

A Mystery

We went up by lift, and Stalin met us upstairs. He did not go out of the Bolshoy Dvoreic with us, "and yet he was ahead of us!" How? Mystery! A secret well in keeping with the tradition of the Kremlin, of Russia and of the Soviets! In the large room with two big conference tables, and walls covered with maps, rolled and unfurled like window blinds, the photographers were waiting, and the documents were ready for signature. The statesmen put their pens to the paper; there was a flash of magnesium, and all was over.

Our hosts bade us farewell downstairs as we were getting into the cars. The sound of running engines suddenly made me realise that there still is outside the rectangle of red walls another life, less monastic and monarch-like, less intence and mysterious, less fascinating, and more normal. The evening at the Kremlin was over, and so was the tale of Scheherazade. Falling asleep in my comfortable, warm, modern hotel room, I had a subconscious feeling of satisfaction at having seen it all, and having finished with it. I felt like a spectator who rises from his seat after a splendid dramatic performance, superbly acted and staged, and yet feels glad that he does not have to live at Lady Macbeth's castle, or at Hamlets Ellspore.—*World Review.*

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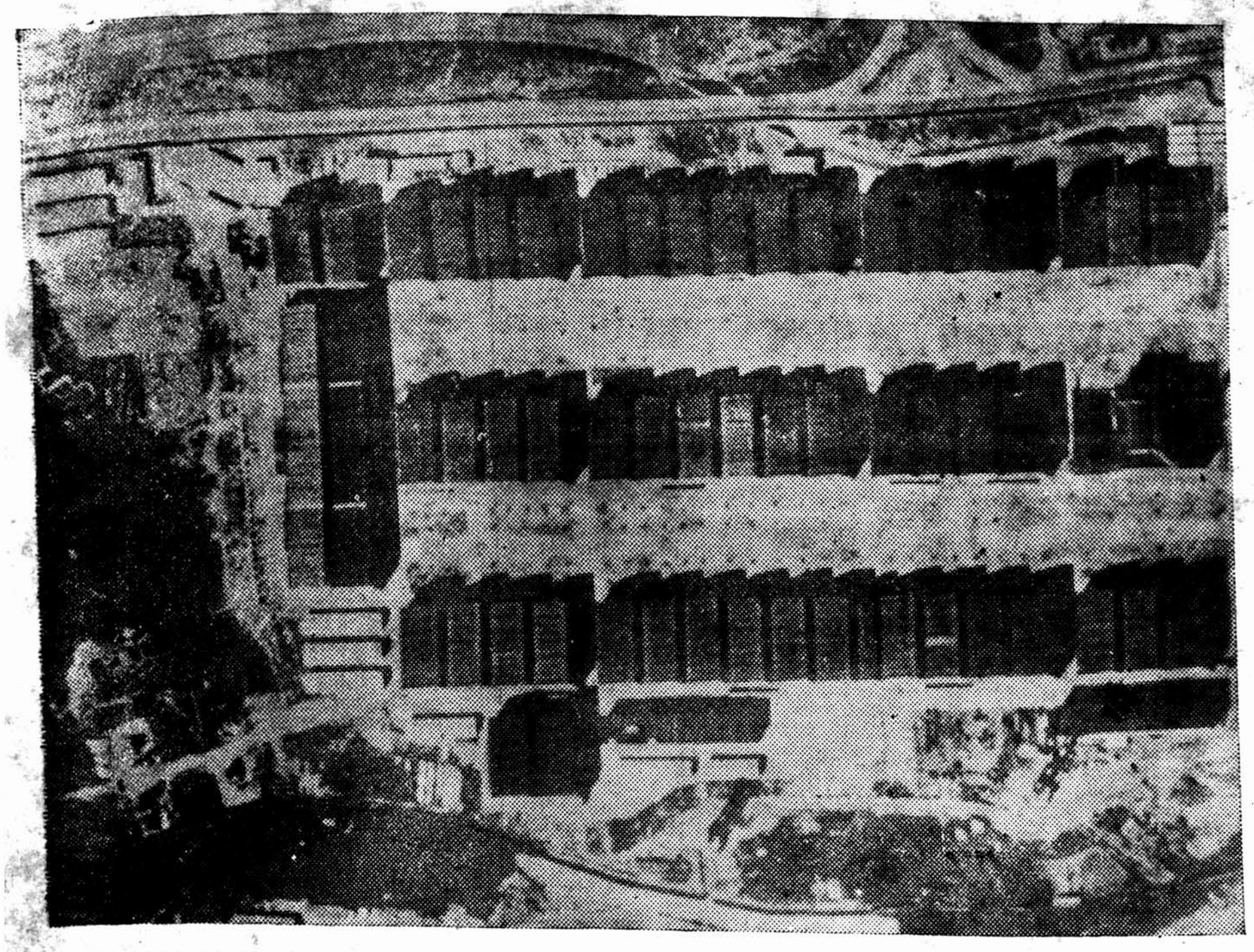
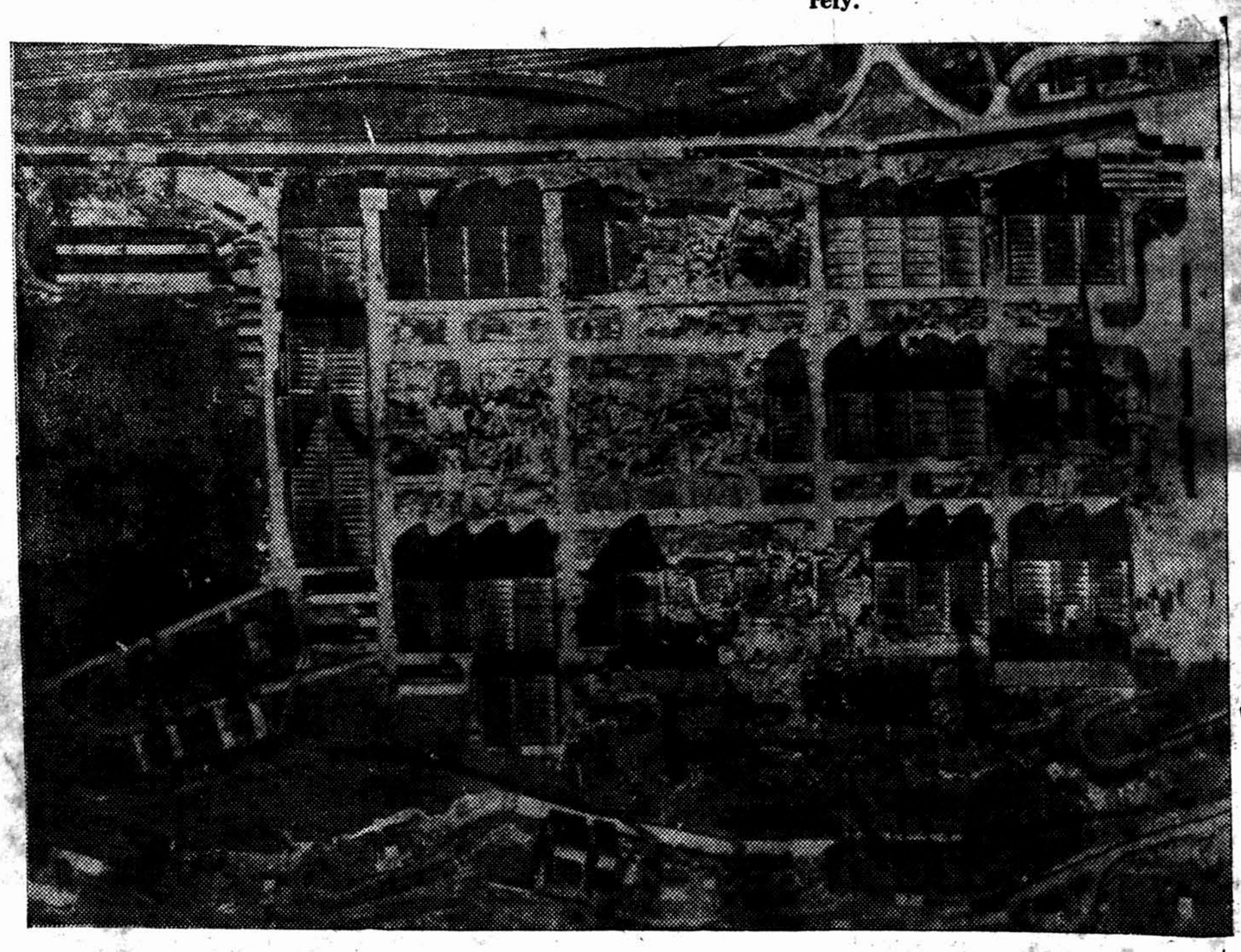


A DOSE OF BOMBS! Before Use

A few of the R.A.F.'s new 12,000 lb. bombs were used by a small Lancaster force of Bomber Command to bring down the greater part of the very large Gnome-le-Rhone aero-engine Works at Limoges on the night of February 8th, 1944. These photographs of the Gnome-le-Rhone aero-engine factory were taken before and after this raid, and demonstrate the destructive power of the new bombs. All the machine-shops, the boiler-house, and transformer station, assembly and experimental shops and many other buildings were destroyed or damaged. The machine shops, housed in nine medium sized multi-bay buildings and one large multi-bay building have suffered very severely.

And After!

The Limoges plant was built in 1939 to serve as one of the four main Repair Depots for the French Air Force, and it had only just begun to produce at the time of the fall of France. Early in 1943 it was put under German management to produce engines for German aircraft. Pictures show: The Gnome-le-Rhone aero-engine works at Limoges before the attack and (right) after the attack.



In Soviet Union There Is

No Sport For Sake Of Sport!

The past twenty-five years saw sport made a rapid progress in the U.S.S.R. On the eve of the war there were eighty-eight countrywide athletic societies and about sixty-three thousand athletic clubs, including twenty-six thousand in the rural districts.

All forms of sport, except field hockey, **polo and golf** were popular **in the Soviet Union. Rugby,** too, was **a little played. Most** widespread were **skiing, gymnastics,** track and field **and volleyball followed by** hunting, **marksmanship and** association football. **The total number** of sportsmen **throughout the** Soviet Union **before the war reached** into hundreds **of thousands. There were** a hundred **and forty thousand** registered skaters **and slightly** fewer cyclists. **Almost two hundred** and fifty thousand **chose swimming as** their favourite **sport. Eighty to ninety** thousand **preferred rowing** and about the same **number of people** went in for **basketball and "Gorodki"** an ancient Russian **game now played** according to strict **rules by all peoples** of the U.S.S.R. **Horsemanship,** fencing, **mountain climbing, weight** lifting and **wrestling claimed** about thirty thousand followers each as compared to twenty thousand boxers and tennis players.

The extent to which Soviet sport grew maybe judged from the fact that over six million and five hundred thousand men and women partook in a hundred and forty thousand official contests and exhibition matches held in 1941. There were thirty thousand qualified umpires in the country.

As for performance ranking the Soviet sportsmen, the weight lifters deserve special attention. They hold twenty-five of the world's thirty-five records. This gives reason to think that the Soviet Union leads the rest of the world in weight lifting. The Soviet middle weight champion, Grigori Novak, has made the phenomenal sum of four hundred kilograms in three classic events. Two Soviet swimmers, Boychenko and Meshkov, hold world records in breast stroke. Some stellar performances have also been recorded in track and field.

It is characteristic that sport for sport's sake is unknown in the Soviet Union. All work connected with physical culture is considered to have a great state and social significance. This has found expression in the establishment of "Ready for Labour and Defence" badge. To receive the badge an athlete must pass definite qualification tests in theory competition and militarised sports. Standards vary in accordance with age and sex. Every sportsman considers it a point of honour to receive the badge. From 1934 to the present day over ten million persons have got distinction.

The war has considerably curtailed and altered the course of sports life in the Soviet Union. Many sportsmen have joined the Red Army and are taking a courageous part in the struggle, against the Nazi bandits. There can be no doubt, however, that, after victory over the Hitlerites is achieved, sports in the U.S.S.R. will surge up with an unparalleled force.

Did You Happen To Know That....

THE TIME required to build a B-24 Liberator bomber has been reduced from an average of 100,000 to 30,000 man-hours.

ABOUT 60 trained men are required for the ground crew of an American Flying Fortress or British Lancaster bomber. A 1,000-bomber raid, therefore, calls for the services of at least 60,000 men, not including those who actually fly the planes.

FIFTY U. S. fighting planes can use up to 300,000 rounds of small-arms ammunition in one minute, as much as 10,000 men in Napoleon's army would have used in a day's battle.

MARIA IVANOVA, 22-year-old bomber pilot of the Soviet Air Force, has been made a member of the Soviet Order of Patriotic War, first degree, after making 115 flights over the front in 70 days.

NOT one ship has been lost in collisions with icebergs since the U.S. Coast Guard took up the task of patrolling northern ship lanes following the Titanic sinking in 1914.

WAR has transformed Dawson Creek, British Columbia, Canada, on the Alaska Military Highway, from a backwoods town of 300 to a metropolis of 75,000 people.

THE 3,719 parts which go into the General Grant tank are made by 2,225 U. S. companies, the largest of which employs more than 250,000 workers and the smallest less than 100.

USE of fibre glass for insulation lightens the weight of a U. S. battleship by some 30 tons and thus adds a few days' cruising range to the ship.

THE FIRST paratrooper is reported to have been a French captain who, in the spring of 1918, jumped with an assistant and a load of explosives to blow up German communications.

SIX miles of wire of various sizes and types is used in the Boeing Flying Fortress, best-known U. S. heavy bomber.

THE MUSTANG, a low-altitude fighter plane, is named for the small, hardy, half-wild horse of the American prairies.—U. S. O. W. I.

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